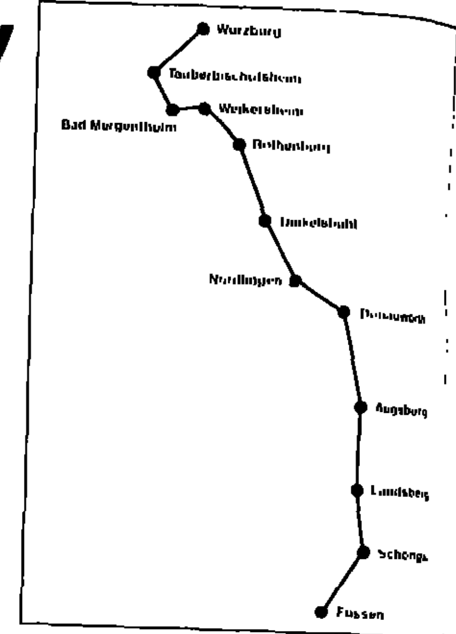
Routes to tour in Germany



The Romantic Route

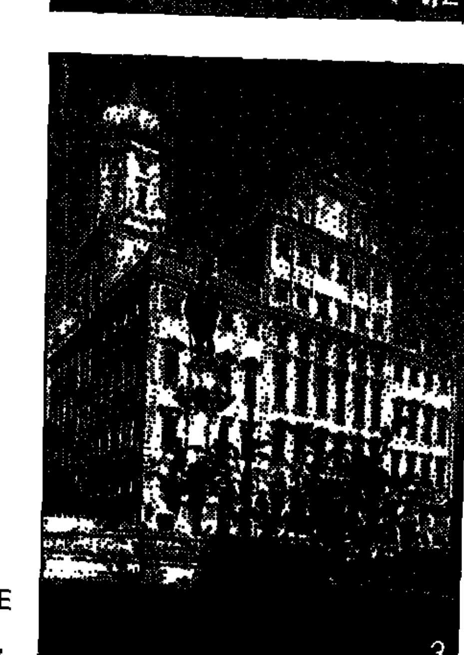
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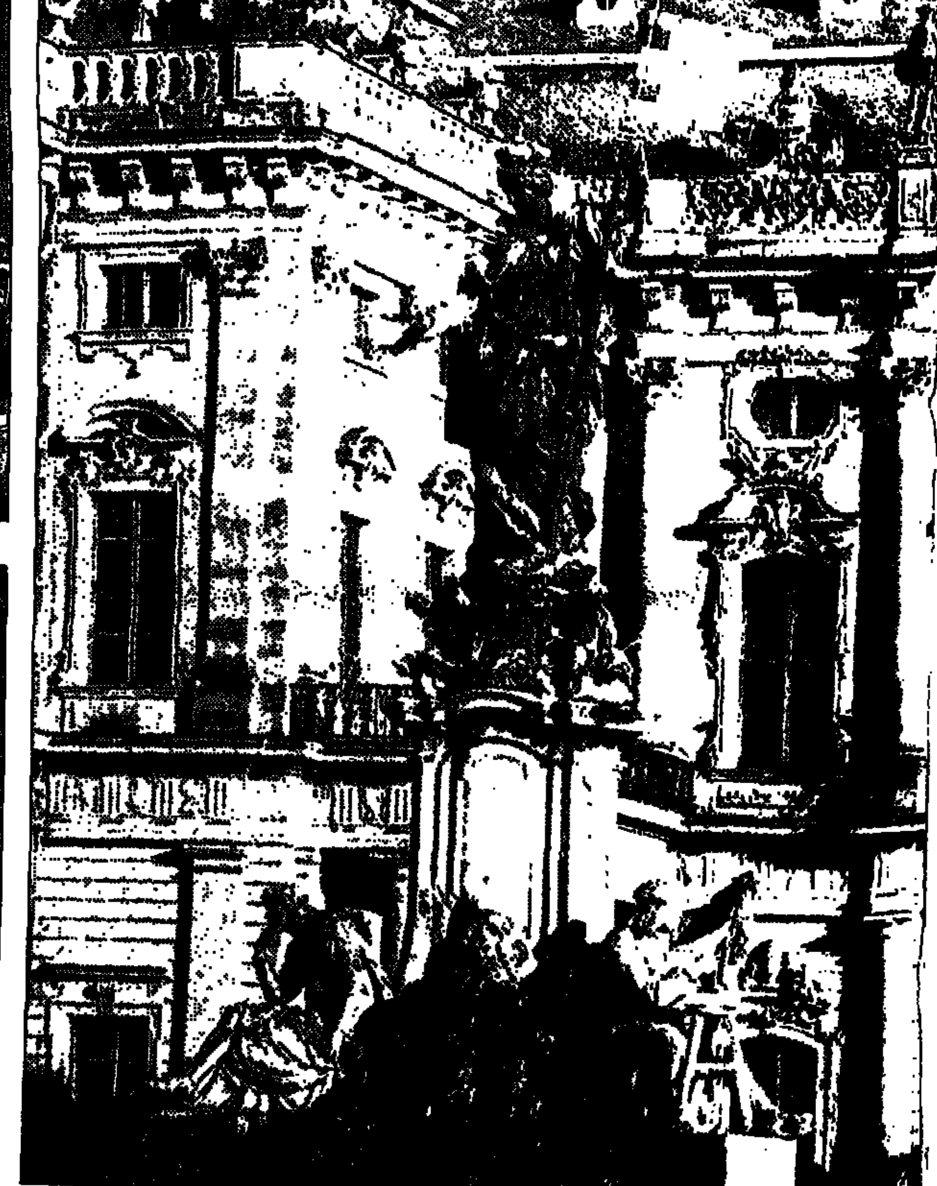
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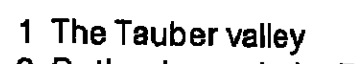




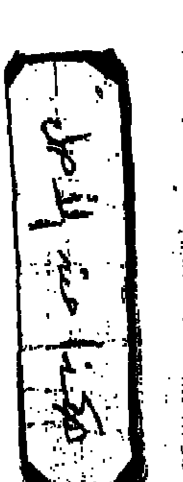




1 The Tauber valley
2 Rothenburg ob der Tauber
3 Augsburg
4 Würzburg



Beethovenstrasse 69, D-6000 Frankfurt/M.



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Hamburg, 5 April 1987
Twenty-sixth year - No. 1268 - By air

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International debt not just a business affair – Weizsäcker



The world was a different place when Bonn President Heinrich Lübke visited Latin America 23 years ago.

He came as an emissary of the German people, who – following Hitler and the holocaust – wanted to return to the family of nations.

Bonn's foreign policy at that time was committed to the Hallstein doctrine, which stated that the assumption of diplomatic relations with East Germany by *non-Eastern bloc nations would be* viewed by Bonn as an "unfriendly act".

During his visit, however, Lübke discovered that the nations which gave him such a warm welcome were confronted by problems of a completely different nature.

Development policy was in its early years and pursued with an almost refreshing naivety. The big failures of development aid were yet to come.

Richard von Weizsäcker's visit takes *place in a completely different political* environment.

Today the Germans are respected throughout the world, indeed loved in some parts of Latin America.

Development aid policy has become more professional, even though there is still no guarantee against glaring mistakes.

Richard von Weizsäcker was welcomed in Argentina, Bolivia and Guatemala as a respected partner whose words are not suspected of being weighted by self-interest.

This is not only due to the president's own disposition, but to the fact that Bonn's foreign policy is no longer straitjacketed by the *constraints of the sixties.*

Lübke was obliged to hold the German position, whereas Weizsäcker can turn his attention to the serious problems facing his host countries.

The biggest problem is the huge mountain of debts amounting to $500bn, which threatens to bury the continent and obstruct all moved towards a better future.

Bolivia, for example, is faced by a debt figure of $4.4bn.

This may not seem such in comparison with Mexico's $100bn, but is seven times the amount this Andean country is able to earn each year via export revenue. An economically catastrophic discrepancy.

As opposed to the situation in indus*trialised countries the debt problem af*fects the man on the street more immediately in Latin America.

Despairing politicians trying to drag their countries out of the quagmire of debt often reduce the already meagre social security benefits.

The prices of staple foods, which have been subsidised for decades, increase by several hundred per cent from one day to the next. The long-term re*sult is the chronic malnutrition* of the poorest of the poor.

Weizsäcker emphasised that the debt *problem and its repercussions have long* since become too big for a solution along purely commercial lines.

The creditors, he explained, should no longer relentlessly insist on interest and principal repayments, just as debtors should not simply refuse to pay their debts.

Politicians and not just economists, Weizsäcker pointed out, are needed to help overcome these problems.

It is no coincidence that Argentina, Bolivia and Guatemala were chosen as the destinations for the Bonn president's visit.

During the past all three countries endured bloody military dictatorships, horrifying periods during which wounds were inflicted on the people which have still not healed.

Within a short space of time all three *countries have managed to re-establish* more or less workable democratic systems of government.

Although *civil liberties* and guarantees still have to be legally established in many cases Weizsäcker praised the courageous steps already taken by the governments in Buenos Aires, La Paz and Guatemala.

Admittedly, history has shown that deeper social rifts in society make democratic institutions less stable.

There is a close link between the violence which accompanies hunger, impoverishment, ignorance and lack of hope and the violence exercised by dictators and their accomplices.

To encourage democracy and the rule of law in the Third World means overcoming the structures of underdevelopment.

Bonn's policies cannot do the one *while ignoring the other.*

Development aid policies must concentrate on satisfying the most urgent needs of the people in the Third World, constantly checking their effectiveness.

However, finding a solution to the debt problem is more important still. Weizsäcker's encouraging words made this clear.

Bonn must join forces with the other industrialised and creditor nations to find a way out of the debt dilemma.

Wolfgang Kunath
(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 27 March 1987)



Bonn President Richard von Weizsäcker greets bauxite miners at the Argentinian port town of Puerto Madryn during his tour of South America. (Photo: dpa)

IN THIS ISSUE

Hope, scepticism in East-West dealings

The intensity of top-level visits by Soviet, US, French and British politicians suggests that, politically, spring is in the air.

Britain's Prime Minister, Mrs Thatcher, has gone to Moscow. In agreement with French President Mitterrand, she seems to *be on a cordial mission.*

An eastward visit by Bonn president Richard von Weizsäcker in May appears to be inspired by the same spirit.

The secretary of the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party, Dobrynin, formerly the Soviet ambassador in Washington, has announced his visit to Bonn in *advance of a probable later visit by Soviet* deputy leader Antonov and Foreign Minister Shevardnadze.

Chancellor Kohl, who is visibly more receptive to negotiations, will be sending his foreign policy adviser, Horst Teltschik, to the Soviet Union.

Washington has also got its politicians *on the move. Secretary of State George* Shultz, for example, wants to meet Soviet leader Gorbachov.

Shultz will probably want to find out more about the separate agreement Gorbachov referred to during the meeting of the foreign ministers of the Warsaw Pact member states.

Even though politicians seem inspired by a new urge to move closer together a mood of scepticism still prevails.

Bonn Foreign Minister Genscher *agreed with his Chinese colleague that* developments in the Soviet Union is to be welcomed. They also reached agreement *on the problem of medium-range missiles.*

What the Warsaw Pact has come up with sounds very promising. Not just a zero-level solution to the question of reducing medium-range missiles, but also a 20 per cent reduction of the conventional arms arsenal by 1990!

This would mean reducing Nato forces by *one million land- and airborne troops* within three years.

This could jeopardise western defence, particularly in view of *the fact that the long* overdue removal of chemical weapons is being considered. According to claims there is still a Soviet supremacy in the fields of short-range missiles, C-weapons and, above all, conventional arms. Under the assumption that, viewed historically, Russia has greater cause to feel threatened than Western Europe, an arms freeze is *unlikely to calm anyone down.*

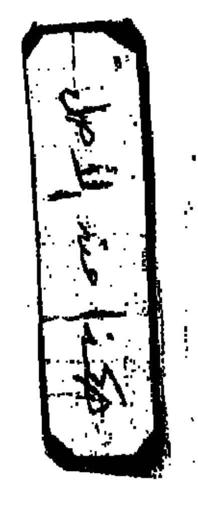
A number of competent American experts have already warned against any reduction at all with the exception of medium-range missiles.

General Rogers pointed out that any reduction of Nato troops is a bankruptcy idea, especially since the current status is *inadequate and a conventional attack* cannot be warded off without nuclear weapons. The military, however, need *not necessarily be right. However, despite the* many doubts, one should not forget that Gorbachov's plans to modernise the Soviet Union are genuine.

Chief public prosecutor Rekunkov has described how radical Gorbachov's campaign is, even though sections of the bureaucracy are known to be boycotting Gorbachov's *policy.* It is still *not clear how* much this will affect military decisions.

Henry Kissinger once warned that any attempt by the state to change society also strengthens the power of the state. The wisdom of his words remains to be seen.

Karl Ackermann
(Mannheimer Morgen, 26 March 1987)



■ WORLD AFFAIRS

Group set up to mould German Namibia policy

Frankfurter Allgemeine

The coalition government in Bonn has agreed to set up a special commission on Namibia in an effort to defuse an explosive foreign policy issue.

There have been political differences of opinion on how to deal with the former German colony of South-West Africa/Namibia for many years, especially between the CSU and Bonn's Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher (FDP) as well as within the FDP itself.

The commission is to consist of one representative respectively from the Foreign Office and the Ministry for Economic Cooperation — probably their parliamentary secretaries of state — and two Bundestag members respectively from the CDU, CSU and FDP.

The first meeting is planned for April. The commission will decide how to shape unofficial relations with Windhoek and discuss the extent of aid to Namibia (the name the country will adopt once and for all this year).

Contrary to previous statements by the Foreign Office, therefore, in future neither the question of aid nor the contacts to non-governmental organisation are disputed "as such".

The Namibian opposition movement, the South-West African People's Organisation (Swapo), criticises both and regards this policy as support for the interim government in Windhoek, which Bonn does not officially recognise.

Swapo leader Nujoma once went so far as to talk of a "dangerous conspiracy between the racist South African regime and the Federal Republic of Germany again decolonialisation and the achievement of true independence by Namibia".

West German development aid, he claimed, strengthens the "puppets" of South Africa in the interim government.

The multiracial interim government was set up just under two years ago.

Like other western governments Bonn fears that a recognition of this government would indirectly condone South Africa's role in this country.

In the opinion of western countries Namibia is illegally occupied by South Africa, which thus impedes an internationally recognised independence under the supervision and control of the United Nations.

The deletion of a passage relating to Namibia in the original draft of Chancellor Kohl's government policy statement could be interpreted as a successful move by CSU chairman Franz Josef Strauss, who is highly critical of Foreign Minister Genscher's policy towards southern Africa.

The Foreign Office, however, claims that the section on Namibia was dropped to simply reduce the length of the policy statement.

In the original version the policy statement maintained that Namibia's independence is long overdue.

This should take place, the wording ran, on the basis of Resolution 435 of the UN Security Council (which envisages elections under UN supervision and control).

The Bonn government, the draft statement continued, supports this move.

The solution planned by the UN is a controversial issue within the coalition parties. Criticism has been levelled against the lack of progress along the path to independence and the possibly biased stance of the international organisation.

Some politicians suggested seeking other solutions, including greater participation of the parties inside Namibia.

These ideas are not only circulating in the CDU/CSU, but are also forwarded by FDP politicians (Rumpf, Feldmann and the former Bonn Minister of Agriculture Ertl).

They supported granting development aid to Namibia before independence at a time when their former party chairman Hans-Dietrich Genscher rejected this approach.

Their position was put forward in a letter to Genscher written in September 1982 by 53 Bundestag members belonging to an all-party Namibia discussion circle set up by Rumpf (including 20 SPD and 15 FDP members).

The line of argument was that aid, used for example to train blacks, would stabilise Namibia, reduce unemployment and strengthen democratic convictions.

In December last year Genscher also supported more development aid for Namibia.

Up to now the guiding principle for the provision of aid has been that project approval must be given by all political forces in Namibia. This meant that the Swapo virtually had a right of veto.

Complaint

Rumpf complained that the Foreign Office had often referred to this stalemate situation in the past and thus repeatedly blocked the implementation of projects.

Agreement has now been reached to drop this proviso.

Although the amount involved has not yet been fixed Rumpf claims that there is plenty of money at the Ministry for Economic Cooperation, but its transfer has been so far blocked by Foreign Office objections.

The new Minister for Economic Cooperation in Bonn Klein (CSU), who has a particular interest in this problem in his capacity as deputy chairman of the German Africa Foundation, also calls for more aid before independence.

CDU Bundestag member Schwarz even referred to a "Marshall Plan" for Namibia with a programme worth over DM100m spread over a period of four years.

Such a programme, he said, would provide immediate help and not just a fictitious promise for the post-independence period.

The acceptance of this new approach means that the development policy experts in the coalition have gained a victory over the foreign policy faction.

As the development policy spokesman for the CDU/CSU Bundestag parliamentary group Count von Waldburg-Zeil explained the development policy group "completely agrees on this issue".

Waldburg-Zeil already announced

Continued on page 6

Bonn and Moscow set the tone for improved relations

Although the signal Chancellor Helmut Kohl gave to Moscow in his government policy statement has not triggered enthusiasm in the Kremlin it has not met with disapproval. So his message has fulfilled its purpose.

Following the icy cold resulting from Kohl's ill-fated *Newsweek* interview (in which he compared Gorbachov to Goebbels), Bonn and Moscow can now resume relations where they left off last summer, when both sides expressed their desire to turn over a new leaf.

This presupposes that both sides now — at long last — suit action to words. A detailed programme of cooperation should be elaborated to pave the way for improved political, economic and cultural dialogue.

A network of agreements designed to make the tricky relations between the Germans and the Soviets a little more "watertight" is more important than a new wave of high-ranking visits.

Constant reference to Gorbachov's "new way of thinking" could then be replaced by a concrete framework of action.

Otherwise, there is a risk that what Bonn Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher meant as a meaningful gesture at the beginning of the year may gradually degenerate into a prayer wheel ritual.

In the case of Bonn's relationship to East Germany, on the other hand, action is already speaking louder (and much faster) than words.

The reserved stance adopted by Chancellor Kohl in his policy statement contrasts with the extent of visits to the Leipzig Trade Fair by West German politicians.

Once again, Kohl's provisos were made clear right from the start: no backing down on Bonn's demands for reunification and a single German citizenship.

Does the Chancellor want or even have to check the momentum of *rapprochement* until there is greater clarity on the Berlin celebrations with the associated questions of status and top-level contacts?

After all, the Ostpolitik advocated by the Bonn government already goes much further than the corresponding policies of other western nations.

This may lead to problems as well as admiration.

If Kohl and Genscher fail to get flank support, for example from France or Britain, soon Bonn may discover that it has stuck its neck out too far.

For the sake of the good cause it would have to accept such a situation, but can Bonn bear the strain?

Genscher's foreign policy, in particular his Ostpolitik, pulled through the coalition's government policy talks more or less unscathed.

The congratulations Genscher received from CSU chairman Franz Josef Strauss on his sixtieth birthday almost looked like a declaration of peace.

The SPD's offer to work together with the government to a certain extent in the foreign and security policy fields does not weaken the latter's position, even though the offer does raise a number of questions.

Would the SPD, for example, drop its own concepts for chemicals-free and nuclear-free zones?

Support by the SPD, however, could prove to be a handicap for the government if the aim is to persuade the U to take Gorbachov "at his word".

Genscher is already getting Washington's nerves in this resp. and since its campaign against Nato twin-track decision the SPD almost totally discredited itself in eyes of the US government.

In the final analysis Bonn must main answerable for the foreign po it pursues. Disagreement with Wa ington is part of that responsiblity.

The Americans are extremely sc ical about the "new Soviets".

They regard talk of the start more broadly-based era of econ cooperation between Bonn and M cow as a pipe dream, particularly regard to the transfer of high technol gies.

The Americans would genera prefer to make the withdrawal of So viet troops from Afghanistan a precon dition for a new phase of detente.

n though the support for zero-solutions is by no means unanimous Bonn the USA also appears to be mo reserved in its nuclear disarmament efforts.

Although President Reagan is deter mined to notch up a success on the dis armament issue during his period of office he is equally determined to pu through his SDI plans.

Despite the apparent agreeme during recent consultations on the zer option — both on the question of ver lication and the negotiation link wit short-range missiles — the obstacle are visibly higher in Washington tha in Bonn.

The debate is now beginning whether and how the Pershing missile could be deployed elsewhere.

If Bonn wants to avoid being steam rollered by these developments it mu do more to improve its policies toward the West and not just towards the Eas ern bloc.

Kohl and Genscher need an update concept to give their foreign polic greater meaning and a more distincti image.

Bonn needs greater influence Washington, bearing in mind that next presidential election is in 1988 an that the next president could be a Democrat.

The objectives of such a *Westpolitik* should be to make the dialogue with the East more acceptable, to preclud transatlantic dangers such as trade wars and, above all, to convincingly call fo disarmament in all fields.

This requires single-minded courag on the part of the Germans in their re jection of Star War plans.

Thomas Meyer

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, Cologne, 23 March 1987)

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■ THE SPD

Brandt quits as chairman after 23 years

Willy Brandt has resigned as chairman of the Social Democrat party after 23 years. (His successor will be Hans-Jochen Vogel, the party's leader in the Bundestag). Brandt stepped down after a row following the nomination of Margarita Mathiopolous, a 31-year-old Greek woman who is not a party member, as the party's first press spokeswoman. Frau Mathiopolous is engaged to a Christian Democrat politician. The nomination caused a furious row in the SPD party ranks both because she is not a member and because it was said she has no knowledge of the inner workings of the party. Frau Mathiopolous has now withdrawn her candidacy. But as the stories on this page reveal, Brandt's fall was not only because of the Mathiopolous case.

The resignation of Willy Brandt as chairman of the Social Democrats was caused by a mere side-show. The job of spokesperson is not unimportant, but it is not at the centre of the political stage.

The scene was not without tragedy: here was Germany's first-ever Social Democrat Chancellor, the architect of *Ostpolitik*, Nobel Peace Prize winner, and a *Leitfigur* of the young generation of the 1960s and 1970s coming a cropper over a minor matter.

One would hardly expect a politician of this standing to fall in this way. So why did he?

There are three reasons. First, his choice of Frau Mathiopolous was disastrous. Second, it was one of a series of mistakes.

Third, after the catastrophe of the general election in January when the conservative coalition was returned to power, the Social Democrats have come to a crossroads and talk about a successor to Brandt became inevitable.

Brandt's choice of Frau Mathiopolous as spokeswoman would have been acceptable to SPD intellectuals. She is a brilliant woman and her appointment would have been evidence of the party's openness.

But even among the intellectuals, there would have been some concern about what her appointment as a Greek would mean among traditional voters in, for example, the industrial Ruhr.

Apart from her nationality, Frau Mathiopolous has two disadvantages. One is her limited political experience and the other is that she is not a party member.

It was inevitable that the grass roots would rebel. Their logical question would be: can't anyone in the party do the job?

Yet a man with all the esteem and influence which Willy Brandt has built up should have been able to survive. Should have. But the Mathiopolous affair was just the last in a line of mistakes that finally brought the house down.

It started with Brandt's half-hearted support for Johannes Rau, the beaten Social Democrat Chancellor candidate, in the general election. This led, ironically, to the resignation of Wolfgang Clement, the party's respected Press spokesman, barely three months before the election. It is this position that Frau Mathiopolous was nominated for.

Then there were some bad tactical moves involving Oskar Lafontaine, the left-winger considered by many to be Brandt's choice as his successor.

Lafontaine was behind the election of another left-winger, Hans-Ulrich Klose, as party treasurer. Klose is a former mayor of Hamburg.

His choice caught the party executive by surprise and many senior party members were unhappy at what had happened. They maintained that a stronger party chairman could have prevented it.

So the points were piling up against Brandt. The man who had earned a great farewell was headed for something far less dignified. Yet in normal times he might have survived.

But these are not normal times for the SPD. It has lost a general election. Last year it had disastrous *Land* elections in Bavaria (where it polled fewer votes than at any time since the war) and Hamburg (where it lost its absolute majority in a city where it has long had a stranglehold).

In addition, the SPD coalition with the Greens in Hesse collapsed and Holger Börner, the Premier, resigned and announced he is not standing for re-election.

This year the party faces five more *Land* elections. If it is to stand a chance, it must present the voter with a clear choice. It must decide in which direction it is heading.

It has to show if it intends working for a coalition of the left, which Brandt spoke of a year ago. If it does that, many believe it would risk losing its traditional support from workers in the centre, which would leave it short of a new majority. And if it allowed a Greening of its politics, it would run the risk of letting the Greens take over the ideological leadership of the left. The other possibility would be for the party to look towards its traditional social themes. This would rule out any basis for coalition with the Greens. It is doubtful if the Social Democrats will be able to change their self-image and close their links with the Greens. The coalition bargaining with the CDU in Hamburg (where the SPD is hanging on with a minority government) is showing this.

The party is on the point of making fundamental decisions about the future. Now it can take those decisions. Herr Brandt and Frau Mathiopolous have seen to that.

But what a price for a party head to pay!

Thomas Löffelholz

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 24 March 1987)

Loss of authority was real reason for resignation

Willy Brandt has reached the end of the road. He can still walk with the SPD, but he cannot determine its course any more.

His decision to resign was less his than it appeared. In reality it was the result of the irreversible loss of his authority. In the end it was this that pulled him down. But it also freed both him and his party.

In a few weeks, the woman at the eye of the hurricane, Margarita Mathiopoulos, will be all but forgotten. But the circumstances of her nomination as Press spokeswoman and the trouble it caused are so typical of the state of the SPD that its effect will last.

The whole affair has illustrated how much the leaders of the party have lost contact with the its grass-roots, how internally insecure and incapable it is of governing the country.

Brandt personified this malaise just as much as he did the years of great triumph for the SPD at the beginning of the 70s. He has always been a man of extremes even in the way he could arouse emotions.

With right-wingers, he could set off a neurotic hatred. But he could gain acceptance from middle-class centrists and he was probably the only charismatic carrier of hope of postwar German politics. He often went a step ahead of his party and society. His gift was in being able to combine vision with credibility during his chancellorship and afterwards. He succeeded in giving people the feeling that it was worthwhile being more than content with just the status quo. In his opening address to parliament in 1969, he said "We are going to begin by having more democracy." Many have never understood how much esteem Brandt acquired abroad for himself and West Germany. His domestic politics of reform and foreign *Ostpolitik* were signals that told the world there was after all a new Germany. For five years it appeared as if he was the symbol of the *Zeitgeist*.

In other times he might have survived . . . Willy Brandt. (Photo: Poly-Press)

The first rupture came after the Guillaume spy affair revealed personal indiscretions (the Gillaume affair led to Brandt resigning as Chancellor) and when the worsening economic situation put a brake on his social reforms.

Helmut Schmidt, the crisis-manager, took over from the visionary Brandt. After a psychological and physical crisis he went on further to play a new version of the role he was cut out for.

As the party chairman, as chairman of Socialists international and as head of the North South Commission for development projects he was to prove his calibre once again. His reputation stimulated and encouraged initiatives.

Within the ranks of his own party his leadership ran aground because his claim to be the party's carrier of hope became more and more difficult to justify.

The second rupture in contrast to the first came in stages. In the end he cut an obsolete figure, a relic of the 1970s.

He would in fact have saved the himself and the SPD a lot of trouble if he had stood last down last year. Twenty two years were enough.

Even during the era of the Brandt/Schmidt/Wehner trinity his role was a doubtful one. Each regarded himself to be the best. However Brandt outlasted the others and used the opportunity to try to change the party.

He wanted to adjust the party to a changing society and to make it more receptive to new problems and their solutions. But he went too far.

The traumatic memories of his political start as member of a left-wing splinter group. With its socialist sectarianism and the failure of the workers' movement of the 1930s, led him to overstretch himself.

The chairman set too few limits. He equivocated too much on party policy and neglected the organisation.

He was sometimes disloyal, as in the case of Johannes Rau, Chancellor candidate in the general election in January.

Whenever he went out into the crowds with those brooding eyes, then he seemed to raise himself to historical heights. In those moments he stood up there with the greats, with Lassalle, with Bebel, with Ebert and with Schumacher.

Although he often seemed to have a certain presence, and although he was often aggressive to the point of sarcasm, he nevertheless gave the impression of leading without a sense of direction.

The heavy defeat in the national election and the election of Hans-Ulrich Klose as treasurer, which he failed to notice, and the case of Mathiopoulos were only stages in his demise.

He has left behind not quite a mess but a party which is in dire need of orientation. And whose chief feature is uncertainty.

How should the party react to the micro-chip? And where can they find a coalition partner for Bonn to help them get back to power?

The new leadership under Hans-Jochen Vogel and Oskar Lafontaine and the Chancellor candidate Rau and Anke Fuchs, have a very difficult point of departure. The most difficult for the party since Schumacher and others built it up again after the war.

All the different party currents are represented. But the new guard as a result of that perhaps have difficulty in pointing the party in the right direction.

Their first task is to tidy up what ever has been left over from the Brandt era. The blame for having so much to do belongs to many, not just Brandt.

He himself said "The party must not just be able to remember but also to forget." This is a motto which could help the SPD to overcome this last of its Brandt crises.

Rudolf Grosskopff

(Deutsche Allgemeines Sonntagsblatt, Hamburg 29 March 1987)

Bitter hints at a settling of old scores, lack of discipline

Willy Brandt is bitter about the circumstances which led to his resignation as party chairman. He says the discussion surrounding the nomination of Margarita Mathiopolous was "grotesque" and symptomatic of lack of party discipline.

It showed a lack of consideration towards party members involved in election campaigns (there are five *Land* elections this year). He hinted that veiled attempts had been made to settle old scores.

The comments were made in a speech to the SPD national executive, which was published in the weekly *Die Zeit*.

In it he criticised some people for what he called collaborating with pub-

Continued on page 14

■ HOME AFFAIRS

The nation draws a deep breath as once again it plunges towards The Census

DIE ZEIT

Germany's census is to go ahead this year after a wave of protest and a court decision caused it to be discarded in 1983. A remodelled version has been drawn up.

But public opposition remains high. According to a poll, 80 per cent of West Germans feel that the State needs data to plan properly but only 57 per cent believe that a census is necessary.

The biggest single group opposing the census is the Greens. Their opposition is based less on fears of information falling into the wrongs hands than on a rejection of State planning itself.

Their Bundestag committee is calling for a boycott on the grounds that census data would only be used "against citizens' interests" and for "anti-environmental misplanning".

A Cologne psychologist, Erwin Scheuch, believes the opposition is based on fear, dislike of bureaucracies and an aversion to things technical and scientific.

He reckons the hard core of objectors amount to a mere six per cent of the population. Another three categories of opponents whose opposition comes in varying strengths make a total of 20 per cent.

He says this opposition is not just evidence of fear that data will be misused but also that trust in rational State planning is disappearing. But he thinks that criticism should be directed more again the collection of doubtful statistics rather than against planning.

Even the Greens sometimes want to get their hands on statistics. A recent example was in Bremen where they tried to get information about the number of apprentice jobs.

Other groups which might be presumed to be against the census also need statistics: a group helping the unemployed also approached the authorities in Bremen to try and find out where and how young unemployed people were living. It was told to come back and get the figures after the census.

But the opposition to the census is also being mounted in some of the country's municipal regions. The financing is causing arguments. Some is coming from the Federal government in Bonn and the rest from the municipalities. The respective proposed amounts are 4.50 marks and 20 marks per head of population. Some municipalities say Bonn should pay more.

In Essen, both the Social Democrats and the Greens have decided not to take part. The SPD mayor, Peter Reuschenbach, said if Bonn wanted to have a census, it should pay for it. Essen had a budget deficit of 150 million marks, he said. Esseners should not have to stump up with another seven million marks.

However, he avoided the question of whether Essen's financial plight was due to bad money handling. The city has, for example, West Germany's most expensive town hall.

But the North Rhine-Westphalian State government in Düsseldorf says that Essen cannot opt out of the census because it doesn't have the power to.

Local governments are generally strong supporters of the census despite the cost. Smaller municipalities rely on planning data, mainly to do with commuting and children.

The arguments for and against a census are as dry as the statistics themselves and the economic advantages of the data is difficult to quantify precisely. It is just as difficult to quantify the damage caused by incorrectly filled out papers or non participation.

The 1970 census provided an interesting insight into living in Germany. The findings showed in 68 regions the population had increased by a total of three million. 80,000 families lived in cottages, summerhouses and hovels.

Four million flats had no toilet. As a result of this information, housing laws were changed.

The census went on to have concrete consequences in particular cities. Cologne, for example that it had 21,253 fewer people than it thought. And the city had been allocated too much land.

In Bonn, it was revealed the southside's population was falling whereas it amount of offices was increasing. The city acted to halt businesses moving in. Now the southside is once again a popular residential area.

The results of a census can hardly have been as explosive as those for Bremen in 1970. Hans Koschnick, the Lord Mayor, dreamt of a population of a million by the year 2000. At that time the city had 600,000 inhabitants. The SPD believed this would mean more industry, apartments, streets and the realisation of an underground system. The census brought the politicians back to reality. It turned out the city had lost 20,000 people. More and more people were moving outside the city. So there was a downward tendency. The dream was subsequently buried. Millions of marks were saved by sticking to the lesser census figure instead of spending on planning for a lot of people who were non existent.

In Bremen, the results of this census are again being awaited with interest. Information on commuters will be of particular interest. In 1970 50,000 people travelled in from outside the city to work. Today it is reckoned to be twice that number. They earn their money in Bremen but pay their taxes there.

The surrounding areas derive their income, profiting from the city's infrastructure and efforts to attract new industries of the future, without having to contribute to the costs.

Jürgen Dinse, the Bremen statistician said, "The core cities are going to the dogs," The social structure he added, "changed a lot."

Since 1970 the city has lost 150,000 inhabitants, but 100,000 replaced them. This exchange of people with the greater Bremen area has given the city problems. It has gained the socially disadvantaged at the expense of the better off.

If this is confirmed by the census the city will need a financial adjustment of taxes with the other *Länder*. Therefore the data will be vital to the city's economic survival.

If the figures show that populations have risen or sunken it will mean ready money for the *Länder*, cities and local governments. The adjustment of taxes is a matter of some DM2.7 billion. Stuttgart gets DM1,300 from the *Land* for every inhabitant. So it's important for both sides to count exactly.

Experts believe that the Germany's population is a million less than believed. Registration office figures are unreliable. Many do not bother to deregister when they leave town.

The official registration figures are important for many things. They appear in over a hundred laws and ordinances.

Constituency sizes, the incomes of local authorities directors and the amount of young people available for emergency fire brigade and military service are based on them. A large measure of local authority investment is based on such head-counting.

If experts are right, and Bavaria indeed has 180,000 fewer people than on record, then 1,300 hospital beds too many are available. The costs of keeping them amounts to an annual sum ofDM70 million.

DM715 million has been allocated to the census. It will probably turn out to be a billion. Is this expensive? It is not if one takes into account society's information needs and the money it is already paying for them.

For example private institutes for running opinion polls and market research receive contracts annually to tune DM650 million.

In addition to this the money spent by associations, unions and chambers of commerce spend for statistical purposes increases expenditure on information gathering.

In fact the scientific statistical advisors say if one takes into account the cost of empty dwellings, mistakes in street planning, old peoples homes and hospitals, you have a multiple of the census costs.

Politicians and planners are very much in the dark about the number of empty flats. The minister say it's 300,000. The Central Association of Property Holders put the figure at a million.

Official statistics are not of much help. The last figures on them came were noted in 1968. The data are pretty much useless.

The Housing Ministry has calculated that 5,000 flats are staying empty. The loss, says the business magazine *Wirtschaftswoche* is a waste of unknown dimensions.

Despite this millions of marks continue to flow into the construction of flats. Local authorities are continuing to buy up land to attract new residents.

Regionally there is indeed demand for flats. Partly because they failed to supply what was in demand.

In Bremen there are about 10,000 empty social flats, mostly larger ones built for families with two children.

However Dinse says there are a lot of one-person families in Bremen and there is not enough accommodation for them.

The reforms on the cards in areas like old age pensions will prove impossible to plan without reliable information.

At present mathematicians of the Federal Association for social security are unable to calculate how many people are not entitled to benefits.

Planners only have the population structure from 1970 and only how it might have developed. However extrapolation, a method used to bridge inquiries, hides mistakes.

Horst-Worst Müller of the social security insurance institutions says that the statisticians made significant miscalculations.

Career guidance officers at the unemployment office are in need of the census.

In Bremerhaven for example they have to know what the prospects for geographists are if they to able at all to reliable guidance. But nobody can say how many geographists are working there and whether perhaps they are close to pensionable ages.

Even the montly unemployment figures are only rough calculations without up to census data.

In the Saarland for example every regional unemployment office has higher figures than the average one of the *Land*

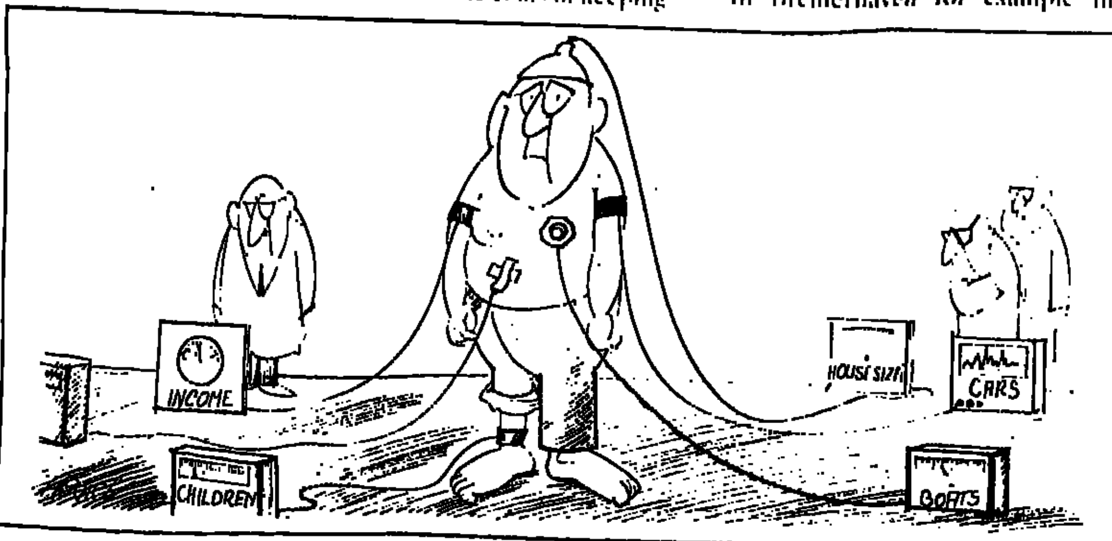
The *Land* has up to date random samples whereas the regional offices work on information from 1970. The government also urgently needs data about the countries work places.

After the last census was stopped in 1983 the cities of Frankfurt and Duisburg could not wait any longer and went ahead at a local authority level collecting structural information.

Now that work places are to be assesed again the statisticians will be treading new ground.

Up until the statisticians have not assessed at all areas of trade and the major areas of service industries which are

Continued on page 7



(Cartoon: Hanel)



■ PERSPECTIVE

The European Communities and the Rome treaties



"The European Community is rubbish if you're a German farmer" read the inscription on one of the banners held high during a protest meeting of German farmers to mark the 30th anniversary of the signing of the treaty which set up the European Economic Community (EEC).

As the treaties establishing the European Economic Community and the European Atomic Energy Community were being signed in Rome on 25 March, 1957, no-one would have dreamt that the Germans of all members would have be spearheading an anti-Community campaign, which is by no means limited to criticism of the Community's agricultural policies, thirty years later.

At the Community's inception the Federal Republic of Germany was regarded as the trailblazer of European integration.

Konrad Adenauer, the first Bonn Chancellor, viewed reconciliation with France and closer cooperation with Western European countries as the way out of his country's post-war isolation and a safeguard against Moscow's aggressive brand of communism.

All previous moves towards closer cooperation were backed by Adenauer.

He supported the establishment of the European Coal and Steel Community together with France, Italy and the Benelux countries in 1951 and encouraged all efforts made between 1952 and 1954 to form a political union and a defence community, efforts which were eventually thwarted by French opposition.

Adenauer would have undoubtedly preferred a political union and the integration of the armed forces to the economic community idea, but was convinced that a political union would follow.

The EEC was not set up without protest in the Federal Republic of Germany.

The then Economics Minister in Bonn, Ludwig Erhard, expressed his misgivings about establishing a regional block.

Erhard was worried about the implications for world trade. As an advocate of free trade he felt that France, with its mercantilistic approach, might gain the upper hand in the EEC.

There was considerable conflict at the time between the Bonn Economics Ministry and the Bonn Foreign Office about how the EEC should be shaped.

Erhard wanted more cooperation, whereas Chancellor Adenauer, supported by the state secretary in the Foreign Office, Walter Hallstein, was keen on the idea of a European federation.

Opinions also differed in other EEC member states.

In France the supporters of federalism were confronted by politicians who preferred a course of more pragmatic cooperation.

General agreement was also missing in Holland. To begin with, The Hague did not want integration without involving Britain, which was opposed to closer links with the continent and indirectly consolidated this stance by setting up a free trade zone.

Only the Italians, Belgians and Luxembourgers wholeheartedly supported the setting up of both an economic and political union.

The basic conflict has continued during the past three decades.

Tentative steps have repeatedly been made towards establishing a political and economic union, but success has been limited.

The often criticised step-by-step approach, however, has allowed the process of European integration to make greater progress than sceptics ever thought possible.

This gradualistic policy has definitely proved its worth in the case of the European Economic Community.

During the ups and downs of the past thirty years several striking events have shaped the Community's character.

The remarkably successful initial period between 1958 and 1964, during which internal tariffs were dismantled, a common external tariff created, the foundations for a common agricultural policy laid down and association agreements drawn up with other countries, was followed by a serious setback.

In June 1965 France refused to give its approval for a restructuring of the Community's financing system.

Walter Hallstein, who was president of the Commission in Brussels, suggested that the Community be given some funds of its own by skimming off the levies on imports from non-EEC countries and allowing the European Parliament to assume budgetary control.

President Charles de Gaulle of France instructed his Foreign Minister Couve de Murville to reject this proposal during a meeting of the Council of Ministers in Brussels.

He also refused to accept the majority decision of the other five member states.

Paris withdrew its ambassador at the Commission and refused to attend the Council of Ministers meetings during the months which followed.

The "policy of the empty chair" was a watershed for the Community's development.

The compromise eventually found in 1965 only confirmed the far-reaching differences of opinion.

A right of veto was established for member countries which referred to their "vital interests" in cases where the otherwise customary majority decision would have bound them to the stance adopted by the majority of Community members.

France's position was strongly criticised at the time, but 20 years later the Federal Republic of Germany made use of this right of veto to block a decision on agricultural prices.

The character of the Community has changed since then.

The integration-oriented Treaties of Rome have become an instrument of cooperation dependent upon general consensus.

The Commission lost its role of pacemaker and the Council of Ministers, in which agreement on national differences of opinion is sought via the lowest common denominator, became the key institution.

On this basis the British, whose attempts to join the Community had previously been blocked by President de Gaulle, and in their wake the Danes and the Irish decided to join the Community in 1973.

The new members made the right of veto a condition of accession.

The next major *tour de force* envisaged by the Community was the creation of a European Monetary System (EMS), which was set up at the end of 1978 following relatively brief but vigorous negotiations.

The EMS is the brainchild of former Chancellor Helmut Schmidt and the former French president Giscard d'Estaing, who pushed this project through against appreciable opposition.

The underlying intention of the EMS was to make the Community less dependent on the vicissitudes of US monetary policies.

Furthermore, it was hoped that the system would help revive a rather weary-looking Europe.

As in the case of previous Community projects the European Monetary System got bogged down during its first phase.

It will probably take some time before the exchange rate block will become a proper monetary union.

The first direct elections to the European Parliament in 1979 were a milestone

Continued on page 9



Bonn Chancellor Konrad Adenauer (left) and state secretary Walter Hallstein of the Bonn Foreign Office sign the Rome treaties in 1957. (Photo: dpa)

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■ TRADE

East Bloc and the West: a commercial twain that sometimes meets

Soviet economic cooperation with capitalist countries is nothing new. In 1922, Lenin pointed out the advantages to Russian industry a deal with German companies would have.

The year before, the Soviet Central Committee had put into operation what became known as the New Economic Policy (NEP), opening up the country to a limited extent to foreign capitalism with the aim of speeding up economic development.

Sixty-four years later, in January 1987, the Soviet Council of Ministers approved another decree on joint ventures.

During the 1990s the Soviet Union wants to accelerate its economic development by increased cooperation with the West. But this time the opening up of the Russian economy seems to go much further than the NEP did.

Not only are individual Soviet undertakings heading for closer cooperation with the West, with the European Community, but all the Comecon countries, the Council of Mutual Economic Assistance, established in 1949. The founder members were Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland, Romania and the Soviet Union.

On 18 and 19 March delegations from Comecon and the European Community met in Geneva to discuss opening diplomatic relations. If the anachronistic attitudes of non-recognition that both sides maintain can be removed then a network of economic connections can be built up.

Discussions will cover three areas. The Community and Comecon will tackle comprehensive matters such as economic statistics, environmental protection and transport policies.

The Community will negotiate separately with the individial members of Comecon for trade agreements. Brussels has been firm about this because it is easier to negotiate with an individual country than the ungainly East Bloc as a single unit.

The most important aspect is that these contacts, in part dealing with cooperation agreements, should lead to increased trade.

The third area concerns developing economic relations between individual countries in the East and West that have been in existence for some time. The Soviet Union's determination in these negotiations and the determination of Russia's Comecon associates, will give these relationships greater dynamism.

The opportunities of opening up East Bloc markets are considerable but they need to be put in concrete terms.

Politicians and businessmen in the West are taking a wait-and-see attitude, because they do not know precisely what they are getting involved in.

According to an analysis from Paris University made in view of new Soviet legislation concerning joint ventures, there are still a number of aspects that remain unclear — deliveries, accounting and the transfer of profits.

A Central Committee adviser has said in Brussels with disarming frankness: "The legislation provides only the essential features, because we ourselves don't know the details. Probably we shall have to find solutions with the firms concerned."

DIE ZEIT

The question is a macro-economic problem: how can trade volume be developed under the influence of improved political relations?

Jacques Nagels, professor for East Bloc economies at Brussels University and an adviser to Belgian exporters, knows East Bloc markets well from practical experience.

He does not believe that there will be a meteoric increase in trade volume, if only because the European Community itself is not very well disposed towards such a development.

Professor Nagels said: "Since the second half of the 1970s the European Community has reduced imports from Comecon in important catagories, primarily through agriculture policies, steel quotas and restictions on textiles imports into the European Community."

Furthermore agricultural products, previously supplied by Bulgaria and Romania, are now available from new Community member-states Greece, Spain and Portugal.

Most of the East Bloc countries are not members of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (Gatt). Should there be new trade limitations the countries concerned can gain relief in other economic sectors. The Comecon countries, however, cannot lay claim to any compensatory agreements.

The Community has a special debt agreement with Hungary, that has been a Gatt member since 1973. The Hungarians have, admittedly, kept to the conditions that were made when Budapest entered Gatt.

They have pushed their foreign trade in a free market economy direction. Becasue Hungary has kept to her Gatt obligations, unlike the other Comecon Gatt members, Poland, Czechoslovakia and Romania, there are grounds for easing conditions in trade with the Community.

The Community will have to abolish import quotas and customs duties. For a long time the Community has pressed for this. The draft of a trade and cooperation agreement with Hungary is stewing with a working committee of the Council of Ministers.

Then negotiations are under way with Romania for extending a trade agreement, concluded in 1980.

The Brussels Commission is also authorised to negotiate a trade and cooperation agreement with Czechoslovakia.

Many Community countries are interested in extending their exports to the East Bloc countries. In 1985 imports from the East Bloc countries totalled DM66.4bn, but the Community exported to the East Bloc only DM45.9bn worth of goods.

More than a half of Community imports concerned energy, mainly natural gas. Only a fifth of the volume was made up of finished industrial products. Machinery and vehicles made up only five per cent.

A third of Community exports to the Comecon countries, however, were industrial products and machinery more than a quarter of the total volume.

The surplus in European Community-Comecon trade was almost entirely to the Soviet Union's account. But that is melting away because of declining crude oil prices.

East-West trade suffered in the past few years because of the limited foreign exchange the Comecon countries had, which had the effect of limiting their imports.

There can, then, only be increased exports to the Comecon countries if the Community allows the Comecon countries to earn money in the West.

Marketable products are available, since some of the Comecon countries are certainly not technologically have-nots. For instance the Soviet Union can offer booster systems for commercial space projects.

Hungary is successful in bio-technology. The country's pharmaceutical industry originates from the turn of the century. Its research has developed medicaments that are internationally competitive. They competes favourably with West German and Swiss pharmaceutical products.

But these pharmaceutical products cannot be marketed in the European Community. Nagels said: "The Hungarians would find it tough fighting Bayer, Hoechst and Rhône-Poulenc to open up the Community."

The Bulgarians can supply robots they have developed for operation in light industry.

Even if the Community dismantled its protectionism the Comecon countries would have a hard time. They do not have distribution networks, facilities to supply spare parts and service guarantees.

A few years ago, for example, Russia supplied six hundred tractors to France — half of them had to be cannibalised because spare parts were too expensive.

Russian Lada cars were sold in West Germany because at the beginning all the parts could be obtained from Fiat. Now, 25 years later, Lada has its own service network and spare parts depots.

If the Comecon countries want to sell more high-value products they must build up similar networks.

Community companies that have established joint ventures in the Soviet Union, have similar problems. They are not integrated into the usual plan system that gives greater flexibility but also disadvantages.

The state gives no guarantees as regards supplies or sales. Over and above all that everything that is produced in the Soviet Union for the Russian domestic market or for export penalise factories in the West. The account can be worked off, however.

Rare non-ferrous metals, cheap raw materials and energy can be supplied. Then it seems the Soviet Union does not insist on the same wages for the labour-force as do the other Comecon countries.

Uncertainties

The political relations between the Community and the Comecon countries are important because so much is uncertain, from the legal details to long-term market analyses. The exchange of economic statistics will improve the basics on which decisions can be made.

Trade relations will only be improved if contacts between firms and institutions are increased.

Does everyone in the West want rapprochement? One diplomat in Brussels said: "The US urges us to be cautious and rightly so."

The European Commission has given warning that we must never forget that the aim of Soviet foreign policy has never changed, even if it has become more flexible.

The ghost of the separation of Europe from the US is evoked. The East Bloc can risk more in trade negotiations in comparison with the European Community because these negotiations are undertaken not as a bloc but country for country.

Hans-Joachim Seeler, an SPD member of the European Parliament and author of a report on relations with Comecon, is of the view that the Community has to go through a learning period.

The importance of a European policy towards the East Bloc has not been fully understood, except in West Germany. This is fundamental and plays an important role in developing contracts with the Comecon countries.

Other countries, particularly France, hold back. Sixty-four years after Lenin's exhortation the procrastinators are in the West.

Thomas Hanke

(Die Zeit, Hamburg, 20 March 1987)

Continued from page 2

before the general election that the CDU/CSU were determined to reach concrete agreements within the coalition.

The president of the German Africa Foundation, CDU Bundestag member Hornhues, also said that the Namibia question would assume a more significant role after the election.

Waldberg-Zeil listed three criteria for future projects: they must benefit the disadvantaged sections of the population, contribute towards the development of the education, training and further training systems, the improvement of the food supply situation, rural development and job creation, and they must have a long-term orientation, i.e. they must continue after independence.

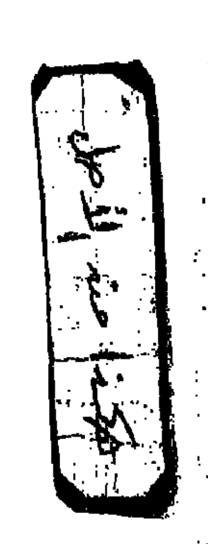
A limited amount of aid has been granted during recent years, but only to non-governmental organisation, via churches etc.

The largest amount of money so far (apart from the money for German debts in Namibia and for refugee aid) was earmarked by the Otto Benecke Foundation for a vocational training centre in the Katatura suburb inhabited by blacks in the capital Windhoek. Up until 1985 roughly DM17m had been spent.

The foundation to this industrial college, however, has yet to be laid.

Apart from the development aid provided by the Bonn government a number of development aid projects have been initiated by private persons, for example by the German South-West Africa/Namibia Association in Düsseldorf and the German-Namibian Development Society.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 27 March 1987)



■ BUSINESS

Foreign-exchange swindle costs Volkswagen DM480m

Germany's biggest car manufacturer, Volkswagen, has been defrauded of 480 million marks in foreign-exchange dealings. Company employees in its foreign-exchange department assisted by currency dealers outside the firm are being blamed.

No one knows precisely what happened. It is thought that the employees used their knowledge to make unauthorised foreign currency deals with Volkswagen cash.

This sort of dealing can be done with a rising market. But in this case, the dollar suddenly dropped, the decline continued, and it became harder and harder to hide the transactions.

Cover-up attempts included falsifying documents and wiping out computer programmes.

For a long time it seemed that the fraud had succeeded. The manipulations uncovered stretch back to 1984. That was when the dollar faltered and the speculators ran into their first difficulties.

It cannot be ruled out that a group of currency dealers within and outside the company have for years been speculating to their own advantage.

Burkhard Junger, head of the VW foreign exchange department, has been with the Volkswagen for 10 years.

He asked to be relieved of his position because of differences of opinion, but was sacked on the spot when the public prosecutor stepped in.

While Professor Friedrich Thomee was Volkswagen's finance chief, currency speculation deals were made officially on behalf of Volkswagen. Only when Dr Rolf Selowsky succeeded Professor Thomee in 1982 was a total halt called to all currency speculation.

Now it appears that it was possible to continue speculating because essential controls did not work.

Frankfurter Allgemeine

It is true that no one is completely immune from fraud. Furthermore Volkswagen does highly successful business abroad and has a volume of currency exchange business of at least DM12 to DM13bn annually, more than DM50m per day.

The losses can be covered without too much trouble. Since 1982, the executive board has placed into special reserves between one to two billion marks every year to cover unexpected risks.

The executive board was able to calm fears on the stock exchange and among investors by announcing that neither the profit figure in the profit and loss account nor the dividend would be touched.

To make a dividend payment equal to last year's, DM300m would be needed.

VW profits for the year should be about DM500m. The entry in the balance sheet under the heading "special reserves" will simply have to be altered.

It will not be so easy to remedy the harm the executive board will have to suffer as a result of this affair.

There was a head of finance who had many real problems to deal with but who did not want to admit to them.

On top of that he was silent when the chairman came under discussion because he was trying to find a reasonable way out in his own and the company's best interests.

On the contrary he found support among those who grasped every opportunity that would weaken the chairman of the executive board and strengthen their own position, and who defended themselves with all their powers against an additional control of the executive board.

Now an embarrassing affair has caused Selowsky to ask the supervisory board to relieve him of his appointment with immediate effect.

If he had not subbornly stuck to his guns to the last moment this excellent finance manager and thoroughly honest man would have been spared such a departure.

Possibly this is a good opportunity to examine whether an executive board can manage an industrial group of this size, a board in which the yearning for admiration is put before the company's interests.

An error of the order of this financial scandal is more likely in a company in which the management members works against each other rather than with one another than in other companies.

Hard-won success can easily be gambled away in this fashion.

Meanwhile, Volkswagen's chairman, Dr Carl H. Hahn, has reported that the group's turnover had reached the record proportions of 1979 — even without the contribution from Seat, the Spanish subsidiary now 75 per cent owned by VW.

Profits were down because of the weak dollar, but the profitability of the past two years has nevertheless been maintained.

Last year, the holding is Seat was increased and a joint venture agreement was made with China.

The high bank loans that Hahn had inherited from his predecessor in 1982 could be paid off by the sale of Triumph-Adler to Olivetti, he said.

Small steps had also been taken for the long-term solution of the pressing problems surrounding Volkswagen do Brasil.

Klaus Kemper

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 16 March 1987)

Buying, selling

Foreign exchange is a bank deposit in foreign currency. Foreign currency exchange dealing is a hectic, nerve-racking business involving huge sums of money.

Every day more than 200 billion dollars' worth of business is done world-wide on currency markets.

Operators are mainly banks, sometimes central banks or banks that function like central banks.

They have become more and more involved in currency markets as well as the foreign currency departments of big international companies.

Basically everyone engaged in foreign currency dealings hopes to make a profit by currency fluctuations. The futures market dominates in this business, buying currency forward for periods of three, six, twelve months or even longer.

The dividing line between "normal" currency dealings and speculation is fluid.

An exporter, for example, buys today the dollar receipts he expects to receive later from a deal so as to get a definite currency exchange rate that he can use for his calculations at the present. He is making an hedging transaction that has nothing to do with speculation.

If the dollar exchange rate should fall by the time he gets his dollars he makes a profit in retrospect if his forward exchange rate is higher than the actual dollar exchange rate at the time.

If the dollar rises, he makes no profit because then his forward buying price is below the current exchange rate.

That is annoying but his dealing has been primarily an hedging transaction, not speculation.

Speculators generally work hand in glove with exporters. The speculator buys dollars forward for the exporter, because he calculates that the dollar exchange rate will fall. In this instance he can buy the contracted dollar amount at the spot rate and at the same time sell to the exporter at the futures price plus profit.

If the dollar rises then the speculator makes a loss.

A speculator assumes then that the exchange rates will follow a certain course. He buys forward when he believes that the currency exchange rate will rise. He sells forward if he believes the exchange rate will drop.

If his speculation works out then he makes a handsome profit because of the enormous sums that are involved in currency dealings.

For example: a speculator buys ten million dollars on the futures market at an exchange rate of two deutschemarks to the dollar. If the exchange rate drops to DM1.90 by the time the deal matures, he makes ten pfennigs profit per dollar. In a deal of ten million dollars that is a profit of a million marks.

If the dollar rises to DM2.10 he makes a loss of the same order.

This business is full of risks because no one can be certain which way the rate will move.

Since the Cologne Herstatt Bank went bankrupt in 1974 German banks' opportunities for currency speculation have been considerably restricted.

At the end of the day's business all calls on and obligations for currency have to be matched. They can neither profit from currency changes nor can they be unpleasantly surprised.

These strict rules, however, do not apply to the foreign currency departments of large industrial companies, although in some cases their currency dealings put the banks' activities in the shade.

They can speculate quite within the law to conclude forward buyin contracts or make hedging contracts that from a purely business point of view are not necessary.

(Die Zeit, Hamburg, 20 March 1987)

Continued from page 4

continually becoming more important. Without contemporary specifications about the economy's structure there exists the danger with changing structures and the promotion of regional areas, billions of marks could be wasted.

The assessment of work places will also improve the chances of smaller and medium sized businesses.

In future they will be able to get free market information from the Federal Statistical Office.

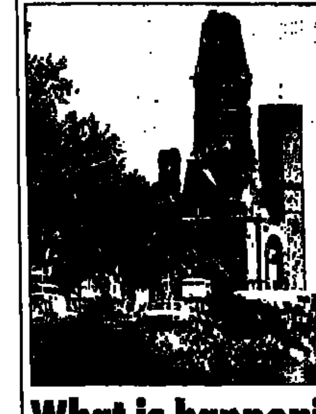
Up till now such information has been the preserve of of larger firms with large headquarters.

Werner Ott of the German Market Research Institute said, "Many small businesses go bust because they have no idea about the state of the market."

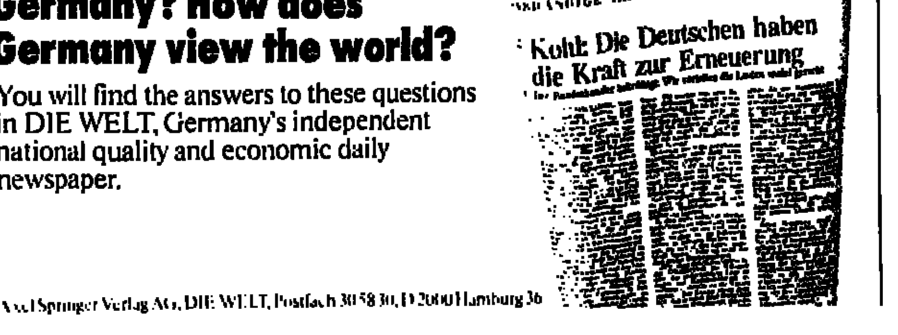
Rüdiger Jungbluth

(Die Zeit, Hamburg, 13 March 1987)





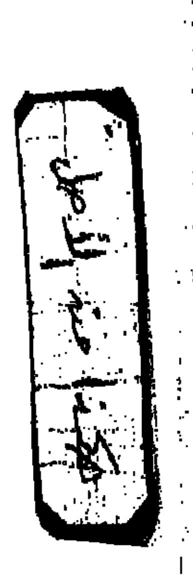




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■ BUSINESS

With millions at stake, no one is looking this gift horse in the mouth

Equitana, the largest horse show in the world, took place in Essen this month, under the patronage of the International Equestrian Federation, whose president is Princess Anne of Britain.

This 9th show was a show of superlatives: there were 620 firms from 24 countries participating and a quarter of a million horse fans turned up for it.

Among the horse boxes the latest horse-shoeing methods were demonstrated and there was horse feed that tasted of apples.

Visitors could also get information on riding holidays and teletherapy with lasers. They could also bid for the 500 horses at the show if their lungs could survive the smog that engulfed it.

Wolf Kröber organised Equitana. He regarded it as something of a coup getting Princess Anne to attend.

He said: "I didn't want a minister or president. I wanted a woman, because today riding has become extremely popular among women."

It is women who, with gentle hands, can teach horses to dance. Women have won international titles in jumping, dressage and the three-day event. But despite the gentle hands and all that women are tough in business.

The German love of horses continues unabated — but 70 per cent of the horse fans are women and girls.

There were a scanty 200,000 horsemen and women in German riding clubs in 1970. There are now 520,000, members of 4,200 riding clubs. Apart from that it is estimated that there are about a million riders who are not club members.

Then a survey has shown that there are about a further seven million people who would like to get up on a horse and ride but they cannot afford it.

Horse enthusiasts pay out about four billion marks for their sport annually. Of this sum they pay DM1.8m for services such as shoeing, vets, ridding schools and for countless sport and riding clubs.

Feed for the horses costs in all DM650m.

Every year about 20,000 horses change owners at an average price of DM6,200 each, giving a modest turnover of about DM120m.

The rest of the cash is divided between riding accessories and building riding halls and stables, and horse-box production.

DIE ZEIT

"Equitana is a shot in the arm for a stagnating market," said Kröber. At the beginning of the 1970s he trotted round firm after firm until he had got together 50 exhibitors. He borrowed DM50,000 and launched the first Equitana.

He said: "Now I only have to whistle and everyone comes running." That includes association dignitaries, who for years supported a competing event, *Rund ums Pferd*, in Cologne.

Kröber estimates that the show turnover including post-show business is between DM25 and DM30m.

There are a few bright spots in a tough industry that includes an assortment of people from builders of riding halls and stables to manufacturers of horse-boxes, all of whom work in a highly competitive market.

If there is anyone making money its the manufacturers of carriages. To drive a carriage is "in." People want to go and nowadays they do so with disc brakes and hydraulics, muchmore comfortable than a middle class motor car and at the same price.

The new items on display at this year's show were mainly in the curative medicine sector.

Thermography, a method of diagnosing inflammation in a horse's legs in good time, was a good opportunity for Kröber to live up to his reputation of being an *enfant terrible* in the equestian business.

In his view all horses should be examined before a competition with this method in all first-class sporting events.

If the examination showed that an inflammation was likely the horse would be excluded from the event.

Kröber said: "Many horses are ridden in events halt."

Otherwise there were few major innovations at the show. There were many fuss-pots who had come up with idiotic inventions. Who needs a mobile horse toilet, that can be fitted without effort into a horse-box?

A solarium for horses is essential for the nouveau riche who have luxurious stables.

It is hard to say whether acupuncture, magnetic-field therapy or lasers really have any effect on jumpy horses or these just salves to the consciences of breeders and owners.

Kröber said that they did no good at all and in fact exhausted an animal.

There seemed to be fewer people now who, out of a misplaced love of their horses, treated them to every gimmick that came from manufacturers of equestrian accessories.

The gentlemen rider is a thing of the past. The trend is back to nature, to riding distances and Western-style.

But commerce butts in here as well and Equitana helps to market what is left of natural riding.

Stables where a rider not so long ago could send his horse out in a meadow and himself doss down in a hayrick now offers fitted stable and a bed for a lot of money.

New breeds of horses have appeared for riding as a hobby: appaloosas, pintos and pasos. Kröber has had them all at Equitana.

Kröber is never embarrassed by new breeds and at this Equitana he highlighted Brazilian breeds (Manga Larga, Marchadores and Campolinas) as cold-blooded animals.

Bringing into the arena the cold-blooded stallion Nippes from the Warendorf riding centre and English shire horses that weigh a ton and made the arena thunder, is all good showbusiness.

The business side involved each horses from German warm-blooded stud farms or the thirty or so Andalusians, graceful and light-stepping, that went for twenty thousand marks each. These horses are giving more and more delight to German riders.

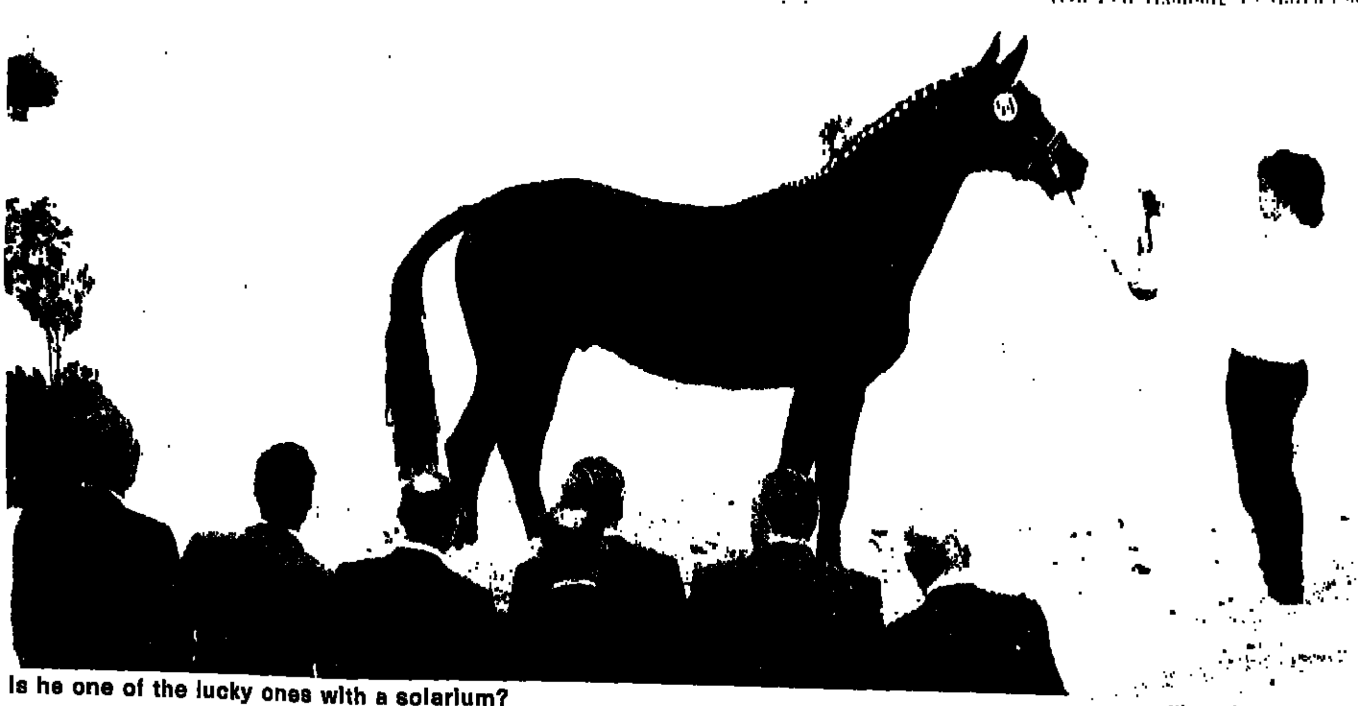
German breeders do not like this development much. The number of horses on offer in the horse market is enormous.

Bring up a three-year-old costs about DM18,000, but the sale price at present is on average only DM6,200.

Kröber said: "Exports to American have become impossible since the drop in the dollar. There is no business to be done there anymore."

Friedhelm Mühlleib

(Die Zeit, Hamburg, 13 March 1987)



Is he one of the lucky ones with a solarium?

(Photo: Barbel Blocker)

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■ SPACE RESEARCH

European programme at a crossroads: decisions to be made about cash

The European space programme is at a crucial point. In June, political decisions are to be taken about whether huge sums of money should be allocated to keep the various projects on course. About 160 million marks is needed, say insiders.

The projects include the Columbus space station, a new Ariane rocket for launching payloads, the Hermes shuttle project and a data satellite.

In January 1985, there was euphoria when general agreement was reached among politicians from member states of ESA, the European Space Agency. It was decided to meet again in June of this year to give the green light.

Then, representative of the 13 nations will look at the technology submitted by both the ESA and industry and make decisions about cash.

In Bremen, MBB-ERNO, the cost estimates of the Columbus space station project is being closely monitored.

The technologies on the blueprints are varied: a laboratory to be moored outside the space station and which would work independently of it; a platform to study earth features from: and various ancillary systems.

KielerNachrichten

To add to their problems the Americans would appear to have their reservations about the whole project. They have not been able to reach agreement on the use of the spaceship.

The differences are not insurmountable. The Pentagon does not intend to carry out any military experiments in it.The founding of the ESA on 31 May 1975 states quite clearly that the project is for peaceful uses only.

But the military is using the Pentagon as a back door.

The invitation by President Reagan to the Europeans to form a partnership has its problems. Nasa intends to dictate what can or cannot be researched in the Columbus laboratory and who is to be given access to data collected.

The Americans want to push aside research into materials. This is of economic importance and is an area in which the Europeans are the leaders.

Nasa can refer to the law governing the use of space which was passed some years ago.

The law says that whoever is responsible for the space system and makes the launching-pad available, can dictate what can or cannot be done

A large number of the Columbus elements depend on the American spaceshuttle which takes off from Cape Canaveral in Florida

To avoid such dependency, ESA and the European industries are trying as hard as possible to reduce their dependency on American launching devices.

They want their own carrier-rocket with a manned space-ship with its own data-satellite system.

The French have taken over control, as they successfully did in the Airbus project and in the development of the Arianeane is supposed have a payload capacity of 15 tons for an orbit close to Earth and an eight ton capacity for a geostationary orbit for satellites. But there are also problems. Ariane also needs to be able to be adapted to handle heavy loads such as the Hermes spaceship.

This is planned to weigh 20 tons — much of the reason is the weight of a rescue system for astronauts.

The French Centre National d'Etudes Spatiale intends to retain the middle stage and the booster rocket. But the middle stage is to be started by two HM60 rocket engines with a thrust of over 100 tonnes each. For that reason the booster rocket is to be become smaller.

Experts are already talking of a critical situation in the current preliminary phase.

The wings of the Hermes have a large surface area with stability problems. The design has also run into cost problems. It has exceeded its budget by over 100 million francs.

The Ariane project's completion date has been ambitiously set for 1995. Hermes should be be ready to go into action a year later. However only the development of the Ariane 5 main rocket-engine is going smoothly despite some technical difficulties. They are planning to run tests on smaller models. They are discussing changing from a solid propellant booster to a liquid one.will not be easy for the politicans to make a decision. The criteria cannot be established til June and the technological concept is not complete.

The the European space industry has itself put up sufficient cash to try an ensure that it will capture a good share of the contracts.

At least in the Hermes project the German space industry is concentrating its powers in order to be able to compete with one voice.

The space firms MBB/ERNO and Dornier, together with AEG, ANT news techniques and MAN founded Hermes Ltd

They should ensure that around 30 per cent of the development and production costs go to the German partners.

Even the Federal Ministry for research and technology (BMTF), the last major ESA partner to jump on the Hermes bandwagon, are staking on a large German participation.

Admittedly the initial financial engagement of DM30 million for the preparatory phase has not exactly had opulent results.

But the BMFT does not intend to be satisfied with the role of supplier.

The latest plan envisages German firms getting orders for the propulsion system, the fuel cells, life-support systems and data gathering.

German industry is expecting its share of the development of a data-relay satellite to be in the region of 25 per cent. This system is necessary to secure Europes hopes of having an independent space programme which guarantees the transmission of data against eavesdropping.

Winfried Wessendorf

(Kieler Nachrichten, 18 March 1987)

Continued from page 5

in the Community's history, even though the accompanying expectations have not been fulfilled.

Soon after the elections doubts were expressed about whether it makes sense to elect politicians for a parliament which has so few rights and so little scope for independent activities.

Although doubts still existed after the second direct elections the European Parliament does have an important function.

Within the network of Community institutions it acts as an admonisher and parliamentary watchdog vis-a-vis the national governments and is extending its role as supervisor of the Commission in Brussels.

Its influence on the Community's budget management has grown. Not always, however, with the necessary sense of proportion.

The hopes for the coming years are pinned on the implementation of the intentions laid down in the "Single European Act" in 1985.

However, not much has remained from the draft version of the Act, whose content was strongly influenced by Bonn Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher.

Nevertheless, the Community of Twelve is committed to establishing a common market worthy of the name by 1992.

The Community will also set out to strengthen political cooperation and improve coordination in the secuity policy field.

All this will require considerable effort during the next few years.

Many member states hope that the Federal Republic of Germany in its capacity as the Community's biggest economic power will lead the way.

One wonders whether the German farmers who wish the Community to hell are aware of this fact.

Heinz Stadlmann

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 23 March 1987)

Chemicals firm says lab tests 'a waste of time'

There is no reason to carry out experiments in space, according to a senior employee of Hoechst, the chemicals conglomerate.

Utz-Hellmuth Felcht, a research head, told a Cologne University meeting that there was no product that could not be made on earth.

He said plainly he saw no use at all for space research. Hoechst had cancelled its plans for experimenting in a European space laboratory.

Speakers included Foreign Minister Hans Dietrich Genscher and Tyll Necker, the President of BDI, the federation of German industry.

Genscher called for the establishment of a German facility for all space-travel activities. And Necker warned of drifting away from America.

But apart from that the audience heard researchers and firms inform about present or future concrete market possibilities.

However after all the euphoria had died down they had to listen to some sobering words from the experienced spacerocket specialist from Aachen, Professor Peter Sahm.

He said that basic research over the next 10 years in space was indispensible. Only after that could one talk at all of production in outer space.

Professor Sahm was head of the 1985 space-lab mission during which two new thermoresistant ceramic fibres were discovered.

The best possibilities would seem to be available to the chemical industry. But it was precisely here that the least amount of interest was shown in research in outer space.

It seems that Hoechst's attitudes towards space research is shared by other chemicals groups.

The Intospace society, founded in 1985 in Hannover to market the use of space, has no chemicals company at all, although it has nine member nations.

Hoechst has now even cancelled its planned participation in the German spacelab mission in 1990.

It intended to attempt the difficult production of protein crystals in weightlessness.

It had hoped to learn more about the structures and workings of these biologically active substances. However Hoechst has crystallisation experts who can solve these problems on earth.

In contrast to that, Professor Heinz Büchel head of research for the Bayer group, has confirmed their keenness to contribute to spaceship technology and to use space for high technology, such as fibre reinforced synthetic materials or silicon solar cells.

The micro-elecrtronic industry has also lost interest. Hermann Franz, a Siemens executive, cannot envisage producing in space modern highly integrated circuits of megabit technology. They would be 200 times more expensive than those on earth.

The micro-electronics industry has even lost interest in motor propulsion systems.

Satellites and probes in use are of necessity old technology because of the long trial phases involved.

However it is forseeable that space might be suitable for the production of Galliumarsenid, the microchip material. Industry is only interested in the market potential of space.

Walter Hunger, the head of a 600 man firm making hydraulic cylinders, explained to an enthralled public how one could sneak into the market.

After the challenger tragedy he wrote to Nasa and told them that they had the wrong sealing rings and offered them his.

Nasa praised him for his private inititive and invited him several times to Huntsville, Alabama.

Together they worked out a caulking solution for engine segments based on his own sealing solutions.

In mid November Nasa informed him that that his sealing solution beat all rivals in tests carried out by them.

As a result he got a $100,000 contract to deliver models for rocket tests.

This does not cover his costs but give his company's image a tremendous boost.

Michael Globig

(Rheinischer Merkur/Christ und Welt, Bonn 13 March 1987)

■ THE THEATRE

Curtains for America's last German-language company

STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG

The last German-language theatre in America, in Salt Lake City, has closed.

According to the German Theatre Yearbook there are only two German-language theatres still in operation outside Germany, an operetta house in Amsterdam and some strolling players in Tenerife.

In 1981 two theatres were listed in Romania, one in Sibiu (Hermannstadt) and one in Timisoara.

The last performance in the German playhouse in Buenos Aires took place in 1979.

Lotte Gürtler, who has been running the Salt Lake City theatre alone since her husband, Siegfried, died, has decided that she can no longer continue operating the theatre on her own.

For 33 years and 142 productions, colleagues, members of the audience and friends speculated on how long the couple's enthusiasm would last for their unprofitable theatre.

At the end the two, both coming from Hamburg, managed it on a yearly income of three thousand dollars — one thousand dollars coming from Bonn. Actors were paid twenty-five dollars per part as were Siegfried and Lotte.

Siegfried earned their daily bread as a painter.

The two were old troopers having worked in the Volkstheater in Altona, the Stadttheater in Bielefeld, the Landestheater Nordfriesland and the Kammerspiel in Bremen. When in August 1952 they decided to move to America their colleagues regarded the move as absurd.

The period of massive emigration to America had long since passed. Their friends asked: to whom will you play?

Sixty years before there were 38 German-language theatres in North America. Many emigrants lived in New York, Philadelphia, Cincinnati, Chicago, Milwaukee, St Paul and San Francisco.

The Germans there lived isolated in their "German towns," and spoke mainly their mother tongue, German.

"Their theatre" was a symbol of their identity and a meeting place for the German community generally.

A play-bill dating from 1879 listed, for example, "Goethe's immortal masterpiece Faust" with the addition, "After the performance dancing."

With their integration into the main stream of American life, German-Americans lost touch with their "old" culture.

Siegfried and Lotte, both Mormons, discovered this was not quite true. To begin with they had a potential audience in Utah of 16,000 German Mormons, who had emigrated before and after the Second World War with the assistance of their church.

The couple were expected in "Zion" as Salt Lake City is called. Relations and fellow-believers made it possible for them to put on their first production three months after arriving in the US, Berthold Brecht's one-acter *Die jüdische Frau* and *Der Spitzel* and the scene *Beckmann und der Oberst* from Wolfgang Borchert's *Draußen vor der Tür*.

The performances took place in a German family's living room.

From then on the couple put on a new programme every three weeks; literary evenings, theatre and music in the home.

Most of their fellow countrymen did not have television and felt uncomfortable speaking English. The German theatre was an antidote to nostalgia for the old country.

There were talented actors and actresses among them who had been trained for the theatre in Germany, such as Klaus Rathke, disciple Max Gaedes from the Landesteater in Hanover, or people who had performed as amateurs back home and were then trained by the Gürtlers.

Many astonishingly good productions were put on in the community centres and later in their own home.

They went on tour with one or two productions, playing in many US cities, in Vancouver in Canada, Iceland and in seven cities in the Federal Republic.

There were conflicting views from the public and the press in a tour in the spring of 1975. "At last real theatre," was the comment made in Berlin of the troup of four's performances. Elsewhere the productions were dismissed as "grandpa's theatre."

They had brought back to the Old World Manfred Hausmann's *Der Fischbecker Wandteppich*. The play and its production did not seem to many to be sufficiently "with the times."

German theatre of the last century was itself in a similar situation. "Modern" plays were not well received by the



Couldn't fight video era . . . Siegfried and Lotte Gürtler. (Photo: Viola Wester)

public. There was hardly any experimentation. New plays in English only attracted attention when they had proven their worth in Germany or Austria.

Looking back Lotte Gürtler said: "Plattdeutsch comedies from Hamburg's Ohnesorg Theater were very popular. They presented a safe world with straightforward characters without any complications."

For more than thirty years the couple presented new plays, some in translations they did themselves. These included crime plays, comedies, works from the naturalist school of theatre and German classics from the original *Faust* to Gallin's *Einmal Moskau und zurück*.

The stage was minute. Although Lotte made the costumes herself in the main — from remnants provided by a friendly upholstery firm — loans and help from other German theatres were most welcome.

The Stadttheater in Bremen sent a complete set of costumes and décor for a production of Lessing's *Minna von Barnhelm*, and the Deutscher Theater in East Berlin did the same for a production of Schiller's *Kabale und Liebe*.

Assistance of this sort attracted the attention of the German departments of American universities. Students and professors from Utah and Wyoming came to performances. The couple were invited for guest performances ever further afield. This helped increase audiences beyond the confines of the old emigrant season ticket-holders.

Former missionaries and GIs attended the theatre to brush up their knowledge of German.

A group of professors from Utah University organised discussions of the plays before performances, with the help of a visiting German professor.

The long life of the last German-language theatre abroad was only possible because of the work of Lotte and Siegfried Gürtler.

Siegfried was born of a working class family during the First World War. He was a socialist, pacificist, and in his youthful dreams believed all things possible.

He could never understand why German-speakers should not want to visit his theatre, and he let his view be known. His strong point was not diplomacy.

The hundred-year-old family home on 2nd Avenue was converted into a theatre which at a pinch could accommodate 50, sitting on seats that Lotte herself covered with silk upholstery.

The season ticket-holders in the first row where only a metre away from the prompt, sitting behind the curtain.

One of the most well-known season ticket-holders was Dr Alexander Schreiner, organist at the famous Mormon Tabernacle.

Lotte Gürtler, a typical middle-class Hamburg woman, analytical and a performer of the title role in Goethe's *Iphigenie auf Tauris*, saw in her partnership with Siegfried, so different to herself, something fundamental for their life-work together.

She said with pride: "I knew how to take Siegfried." She was just as stage-struck as he.

They had only to reconcile their different views on the current production and make lists dividing the routine jobs that had to be done among them.

She was responsible for the costumes, he for the sets. She handled their business affairs, he was responsible for the programme, which he produced himself from lino-cuts, and for the exhibition in the foyer, where Lotte sold fruit juice during the interval.

When she was told by doctors that Siegfried was suffering from leukemia she went ahead with his request to produce *Hauptmann von Köpenick*, so that he could play his favourite part.

Even in 1985 he wanted to convince her that all would carry on just the same. A week later he was dead.

Lotte Gürtler could see no future for the German-language theatre. She said: "Most of our actors are too old. Their children speak German with a very heavy accent. People who want to watch German plays get videos sent to them from Germany."

Ingrid Sulich

(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 21 March 1987)

Accent on hooliganism . . . (Uwe Bohm). (Photo: Peter Pe[illegible])

The resurrection of Andi as a cult figure

The plot of the revue *Andi*, at Hamburg's Deutsches Schauspielhaus, based on an actual event and has triggered off controversy in theatre circles.

The questions are being asked: what can a city theatre put on and what should a theatre director get himself involved in?

On 15 August 1979, a 59-year-old tobacconist, living a quiet and orderly life, shot and killed Andi, aged 16.

He is again living, this time on the Deutsches Schauspielhaus stage. After a series of tormenting obituaries he springs full of beans up on a cardboard grave.

Once more, Andi, alias Andreas Z, storms through the down-at-heel Hamburg residential quarter of Barmbek-Dulsberg.

The revue itself is loud and pointless but the part of Andi, a kind of cult figure, is well played.

Kai Hermann and Heiko Gebhardt wrote the book of the almost accidental death of the lad for Stern magazine.

Burkhard Driest wrote a script to a musical from this book, which theatre manager and producer Peter Zadek regarded as a challenge.

In three months of rehearsals he worked on ten versions of "the most important piece of theatre in my time in Hamburg."

The sequence of scenes put on the Hamburg stage are Zadek's.

Immature Andi, at the lowest end of the social scale, dreamed of happiness and becoming one of the successful in life. In vain he looks for security with his divorced mother, with his good-natured grandparents. They put at risk the help offered by a well-off woman teacher. A homosexual social worker lets him down.

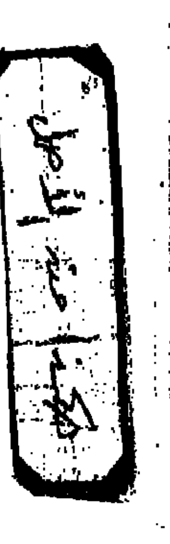
Andi finds that he is only appreciated by a group of noisy, coarse rockers and he finds love with a rocker girl named Anja.

When the drunken group were showing off Andi was shot dead.

With some malice the news magazine *Der Spiegel* described the revue as being "a socially gruesome musical." That is a little distorted as was so much that was said about the revue during the rehearsal months.

Zadek and many of his colleagues expressed themselves in public, advertis-

Continued on page 11



■ FASHION

Capitalist magazine shows how to dress up Soviet market forces

DIE ZEIT

Germany's biggest-selling fashion magazine, *Burda-Moden*, now appears in 14 languages — the latest is Russian.

The German edition of *Burda* used to be available in the Soviet Union on the black market. Demand was so heavy that it cost 50 rubles (150 marks) compared with the German kiosk price of DM4.50 for a normal monthly edition and just under seven marks for a special edition with for example, patterns for childrens' or pregnant women's clothing.

The Russian edition is being sold, at first in a limited print run of 100,000, for five rubles (15 marks).

Why Russia? Because Russian women cannot buy good ready-made clothes. They like making their own but Soviet patterns are bad. *Burda* has high-quality patterns.

The magazine was launched with fanfare: publisher Aenne Burda, her three sons and their families all flew to Moscow where a select Russian audience in the famous pillared halls of the Soviet trades-union building saw a preview of 1987 German fashions.

There were stars from the Bolshoi ballet, clowns from the state circus and 16 top models including three from the Eileen Ford agency in New York to lend razzamatazz.

There were camera teams from Germany and France and from two of the big American networks, NBC and ABC. And there were journalists all over the place.

Frau Burda acknowledged that *Burda* is a beneficiary of Mr Gorbachov's *glasnost* (openness) policies. But the main beneficiaries will be the Russian woman on the street. She will still have to pay a lot for the magazine, but it will at least be available.

Burda boss Manfred Made said that every black market copy had between 30 and 50 readers and the price maintained itself as it was passed from hand to hand.

Black market dress patterns up until now have been available in the Soviet Union on the black market at up to 50 rubles each (150 marks). The Russian-language *Burda* will help relieve this pressure on Tamara's (and Ivan's) budget.

It is planned to produce three more editions of *Burda* this (northern) summer with summer, autumn and winter fashions. The print runs will be upped to 200,000. There will be tips on cosmetics as well and recipes.

Russian women will also get a breath of the capitalist world. Fifteen West European companies have taken full page advertisements in the Russian publication for DM16,500 per page. In the German edition of the magazine advertisers have to pay three times this.

Advertisers include a big German mail-order company, Otto Versand (their slogan "Otto find ich gut" has been translated into the Cyrillic script). Deutsche Bank, Cartier, American Express, Lancôme, Adidas, Audi and Nivea.

Made sold all the ads within a day. He expects there to be a rush of advertisers from the West for the next edition.

He said: "They look at the prospective of a huge market of 280 million people. In the Comecon countries there are 500 million people in all."

The launch in March is only the beginning of the Aenne Burda publishing house plans for the Soviet Union. She hopes that by 1988 the magazine will be appearing monthly in Russia, written and translated by a small editorial staff of Germans and Russians in Moscow.

Payment terms are so unsure in Russia that the Offenburg management does not have a large circulation in mind.

Made is promoting as much as possible gift subscriptions taken out by Russians living abroad for their relatives in the USSR. A year's subscription is DM24 plus DM6.80 for packing and postage.

But the Offenburg management has even bigger things for the future. They are contracted to help the Russians set up a photogravure facility in Moscow, using the latest technical developments.

Frau Burda, who signed the contract, needs the help of her two eldest sons, Franz and Frieder, for this.

They took over the printing works after the death last year of their father, Franz Burda. With his magazines, *Bunte, Freundin, Pan, Mein schöner Garten* and *Das Haus*, and her own publications, Frau Burda now employs a total of 4,000 and has a total turnover of almost one billion marks.

The most important customer for the printing plant is Frau Burda herself with her publications.

The Russian-language *Burda* is being produced in Offenburg, but will eventually be printed in Moscow.

The deal between Frau Burda and the Russians began in May last year. During the Offenburg printing fair, Drupa, a large Russian delegation visited the Burda printing plant. The Russians were not only impressed by the printing technology but also by the magazine itself. Through their ambassador in Bonn, Juliy Kvitzinsky, negotiations were set in motion. The first contracts were signed at the end of October. By the end of December all the advertisements for the first Russian issue of the magazine had been sold. *Burda* has a high reputation all over the world. It even appears in Greek, Turkish and Arabic. About 2.5 million copies are sold every month in about 100 countries, 1.3 million of them in the Federal Republic, Switzerland and Austria alone.

Иow Tamaяa яeally can dяess up

Bauer-Verlag, Hamburg, produces only 542,000 copies of its *Neuen Mode*.

Between 300,000 to 350,000 copies of *Burda-Moden* are published in Italy every month, making the publication a market leader, and in Spain it has a circulation of 170,000 copies, the largest women's magazine in the country.

Frau Burda's target group has always been the middle classes. She has never been interested in extravagant, outlandish fashions.

She sent her designers to the large fashion shows in Florence, Milan, Paris, Düsseldorf and Munich. She said: "We go along with the trends, but we make them wearable." So far she has been the one to decide what is wearable and what is to appear in *Burda-Moden*.

Frau Burda's father was a train driver. She is a career woman and regards herself as the "ambassadress of fashion," fashion that would be worn by women like herself.

She means by that professional women mainly who take pleasure in dressing well and whose demands are quite specific.

She said: "Fashion is an international language." She told her new customers in Russia that fashion had nothing to do with age or class.

Apart from *Burda-Moden* and *Burda International*, the Aenne Burda Verlag also publishes the knitting and needlework magazine *Carina*, (circulation 457,000), *Anna*, (213,000 copies) and *Verena*, (360,000 copies), launched in autumn 1985.

There are also Burda insertions in catalogues issued by mail order houses and companies selling materials, and

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ing themselves and making comments that caused annoyance. This excited praise before the revue even went on but more often criticism. Fringe groups protested.

In fact the production was coolly mocking of the tobacconist killer and had a gentle understanding of the victim's family.

Andi himself is not presented as a guiltless lamb, but it does show him as the product of his environment.

Johannes Grützke's sets are like a peep-show on the boy's social background with scaffolding to the left and the right of the auditorium. The performing areas go from cars to corners in a pub, solid and witty.

He amplifies these sets with a wide screen behind, two small screens at balcony level and two screens before the footlights.

Film is flashed across these screens from brutal videos, soap opera, comic strips, news reels and advertising spots.

This optical superabundance is equalled by sound. Peer Raben, who prefers to call the piece a revue rather than a musical, composed 17 numbers for the show.

With the exception of the song sung by Eva Mattes these numbers are not blessed with vocal parts. There is less to listen to in Raben's songs than in the rock quotations from performers such as Peter Maffay and Freddy Quinn.

The violent Berlin punk-rocker band "Einstüzende Neubauten" raised the roof with their six numbers. Their amplified guitars boomed out alarmingly. Percussion instruments thrashed away on metal drums and other metal objects to a deafening degree.

The screams of the pressure and pain of the machine age were portrayed in sound in this way.

A vending machine produced ear-plugs, free of charge, for theatre-goers who were not used to rock music.

But the plugs did not dispose of the basic failure in the production. Peter Zadek said: "The piece deals with love, nostalgia and violence." He was out to fire off some social criticism, something quite contrary to *Cats*, that is currently playing successfully in Hamburg. He also wanted to shock Hamburg's in-people.

Initially the production brings back to mind the prèmiere of Zadek's *Giesel*. There are in this piece some enjoyable and thought-provoking scenes, but the whole accent is on hooliganism, a delight in using rude words, sexual violence and pornographic art using a spray gun.

Chaos dominates in the stage Andi's character, exemplifying the comment by Walter Benjamin of the Frankfurt school of sociology that, "The destructive character is young and cheerful."

Uwe Bohm is both. He is the adopted son of film director Hark Bohm and he went to the same school as the original Andreas.

He laughs, makes a noise, suffers and lives and brings to life the first love, the disappointments and the roughneck character of the young lad who was shot.

Uwe Bohm deserved the applause given him, as did Heinz Schubert as the reserved tobacconist.

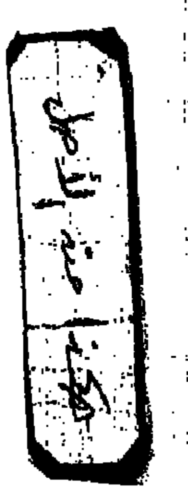
Others in the cast who deserved praise were Susanne Lothar as the wild Anja and Eva Mattes in the part of the defeated teacher.

One 15-year-old said: "My parents would not like this." Perhaps this is true for most adults, particularly those who expect the Deutsches Schauspielhaus to put on "civilised theatre."

Young people are well acquainted with noise. The ensemble was as keen as mustard for this contemporary revue, for this angry, shrill musical scream from this generation. Despite or because of its weaknesses they have made of *Andi* a piece of cult theatre.

Hans Berndt

(Handelsblatt, Düsseldorf, 13 March 1987)



■ THE ENVIRONMENT

Wood preservatives poison family and drive it out of renovated farmhouse

When Volker and Helga Zapke and their four children moved into a half-timbered house out in the country in 1973 it was as if a dream had come true.

They did most of the renovation work on the former farmhouse in Engelskirchen near Gummersbach themselves.

But their dream soon turned into a nightmare. The whole family started complaining about being constantly tired. They developed skin rashes and started getting palpitations of the heart.

The children suffered from headaches and weren't able to keep up at school.

No one had any idea what was wrong. Then, one day in 1982, the Zapkes read a newspaper report about wood preservatives.

The beams and boards in their house had been treated with with pentachlorophenol and lindane. These had been contamnating the air. Both contain, among other things, dioxin, the poison which caused death and illness in Seveso, north Italy, in 1976.

There had been warnings on the tins of preservatives used by the Zapkes that gloves should be worn during application and that rooms should be properly aired. But there had been no mention of any long-term risks.

The Zapkes sued the manufacturers, Weyl and Desowag Bayer AG. They reckoned the chemicals companies should pay for the damage to house, furniture and health.

Helga Zapke explained: "We had to abandon everything. The stuff had got into the carpets, the curtains and all our clothes."

Their renovated farmhouse now stands empty. The Zapkes moved out in 1983.

They spent three years in rented accommodation before returning to live in an annex next to their house.

Although the facts of the case seem clear it is difficult to prove wanton negligence by the firms.

On 17 December last year the Cologne Regional Court rejected the claim for damages.

"The circumstance alone that the the products produced by the defendants may have caused considerable damage to the health of the plaintiffs does not warrant a claim for damages," the Zapkes were informed in the written justification of the court's decision.

Wood preservatives, the verdict ran, were approved in accordance with the guidelines which existed at the time they were sold.

Although the instructions and warnings were "inadequate", the line of argument continued, this is only from today's point of view.

After all, there were warnings not to use the substances in greenhouses.

Frau Zapke feels that the verdict is a blatant miscarriage of justice. "We were not warned about the real danger of the wood preservatives," she complained.

The case is not an isolated one. According to the figures of the Consumers Initiative in Bonn over 3,000 people have reported similar problems.

Many of them complain about weakened powers of concentration, a greater proneness to infections, breathing difficulties and hair loss.

DEUTSCHES ALLGEMEINES
SONNTAGSBLATT

Toxic wood preservatives contain agents which are supposed to protect wood against fungus and insects.

Many consumers, however, used them to improve the appearance of the wood and were encouraged to do so by advertisements and claims that no risk was involved.

Up until the 1980s, most preservatives contained the insecticide lindane and the fungicide pentachlorophenol (PCP).

Due to their respective production processes both substances are polluted by dioxins and furans. Samples of the dust in the Zapke house revealed a high dioxin content.

According to existing environmental guidelines their house should be declared "highly toxic waste".

The victims in such cases are usually confronted by a whole mountain of problems.

In many cases they have saved up for many years and/or run up debts to buy their own home.

To avoid further damage to their health they have to move out of their contaminated homes, which means finding the money for a second dwelling.

The injured parties frequently find themselves faced by ignorance and helplessness when they tell doctors or the authorities about their problem.

There is virtually no known form of treatment for the specific health problems which result.

In the case of the Zapkes the legal dispute is not yet over. Now that the Cologne Regional Court has turned down their claim for damages they will be asked to pay legal costs amounting to DM100,000.

They now want to take their case to the Upper Regional Court.

The firms, they claim, were aware of the health risks involved in the application of the wood preservatives.

Anyone who warns against the use of wood preservatives in greenhouses and beehives, they insist, cannot advertise for the use of the same substances in the living room or the cellar bar.

How the legal dispute between the Zapke family and the chemicals companies ends remains to be seen.

Whatever the outcome, however, the Bonn government should do more to improve the situation.

Most of the injured parties are unable to take civil action in the courts anyway.

The Greens and the SPD call for extended product liability for manufacturers and that the onus of proof should lie with the defendant.

In this particular context this means that manufacturers would have to prove that their products are harmless rather than the consumer having to prove that they are not.

The ban on PCP announced by Environment Minister Walter Wallmann is not enough.

The poisonous substance cannot be removed from people's homes via laws.

The parties concerned, however, can draw new hope from the fact that the Bonn government is considering new measures in this field.

Before the general election Chancellor Kohl announced that new liability provisions for environmental pollution may be necessary and that help must be provided for the injured parties.

In view of the fact that *many people* still live in contaminated houses because they cannot afford to move out this help should be provided soon.

Gerd Billen-Girmscheid

(Deutsches Allgemeines Sonntagsblatt, Hamburg, 22 March 1987)

Water-recycling system being tested in apartment block

A new way of recycling waste water is being demonstrated at the Berlin Construction Fair.

The system, which uses plant life and sand beds, is to be tested in a new block of 106 flats in Berlin.

Initially, only water used in bathrooms and kitchens will be taken and the recycled water will be used only in lavatory cisterns.

The trial is not expected to produce any revolutionary changes in dense inner-city reticulation systems. For a start, the purification plant needs too much space.

But it is hoped that other applications will be found such as in remote housing areas where there is plenty of space.

In the test apartment block, three cubic metres of waste-water will be produced each day. In the first stage, the water goes into a piece of apparatus known as the Imhoff tank where, during a two-to-three hour process, the coarsest waste and small particles are removed.

The accumulated waste will be removed from underground storage through a suction pump twice a year.

The partly cleaned water then goes to the second stage, a refining process using plants.

This section consists of four basins filled with sand, covering an area of roughly 650 square metres and each 1.5 metres deep.

Reeds and rushes are planted in each basin, which is divided into four sections and made of watertight concrete.

Microorganisms which live in the proximity of the plants' roots purify the water, which flows horizontally through the layer of sand at the bottom of the basins.

The looser the structure of the area close to the roots, the better the purification.

Optimal conditions exist if a mosaic-type web of aerated and non-aerated sections is created by the roots, whose length varies between 40 centimetres and 1 metre.

Altogether, 4,000 rushes, each 3 centimetres thick, and up to 1,200 reeds, which can grow to a height of up to four metres, will be planted in each square metre.

Sand and gravel will be used for to line the bottom layer of the basin.

In comparison with normal soil, which would provide better purification, these substances are more permeable by water.

This prevents the water from rising to the surface and ensures that there are no hygienic problems and that no smells are given off.

The waste-water flows through the

DIE WELT

plant-filled basins for about a week before flowing into a special pond.

As the microorganisms are unable to break down the waste-water as fast during winter as during other seasons the whole system was planned for winter conditions.

Each of the four basins is able to purify the waste-water of 50 tenants. The aim is to cut down the use of reticulated town-supply water.

Piping transports the purified water into the lavatory cisterns.

These toilets have a slightly different design to the conventional types.

Both types of construction used only need four to six litres for each flushing in comparison with the eight litres needed by conventional toilets.

To begin with, only the so-called grey water, that is the waste-water which comes from the bathroom and kitchen is to be purified.

Water flushed through the toilet together with excrement will continue to be channelled into the city sewerage system until sufficient experience has been gathered using this system during the roughly one-and-a half-year growth phase for the plants.

The Berlin model project sets out to prove that the use of drinking water in residential areas can be reduced by at least a quarter.

The aim is to gather information on plant-based purification over a long period.

Most of the pilot schemes in the past had poorly designed water-channelling systems or revealed excessive interaction with the environment.

This is why the decomposition of the pollutants, the effectiveness of the scheme and the changes of the layer material used (sand, gravel etc.) are to be observed over a period of several years.

It is still not clear how often the sand or gravel used has to be replaced.

Dying plants will also probably increase the level of the basin content by two millimetres each year

Despite the time and money being invested in the new purification idea city planners do not feel that the scheme represents a solution for the future problems of residential building.

Due to the considerable surface area required the system is not feasible in more densely-built areas.

The project hopes to gather experience which might then be put to use in other regions.

In remote housing areas, for example, or in rural areas where there is no proper sewerage system.

Richard Schwalbe

(Die Welt, Bonn, 17 March 1987)

■ HEALTH

Probe into why women find drug addicts attractive

A discussion group set up in Berlin to help women whose husbands or partners are addicted to drugs is trying to find out what attracts women to addicts.

Claudia Afteldt and Magdalena Hederich, of the Confamilia drug addiction advisory centre, who began the group, may have found some answers.

"Why does anyone fall in love? That's something you just cannot explain," say the women in the group, who frequently find that parents and friends are simply unwilling to accept their relationship with a drug addict.

But the Confamilia group says that male drug addicts are often more sensitive and understanding than other men. "It is precisely this sensitivity which attracts many women."

"What is more," one of the five members of the discussion group (aged between 20 and 30) explained, "you don't notice it straight away."

Until the couple starts living together it's much easier for the man to hide his addiction. If someone is in a dazed state this is often blamed on drink.

In many cases the first phase of being in love also stabilises the man's personality. His addiction become less important for a while.

The addiction can no longer be covered up, however, if the couple start living together.

One of the biggest problems for the female partners of drug addicts is their lack of trust.

In the case of an addiction to heroin crime is more or less preprogrammed.

The women in the group talked of their constant fear that the police would turn up on the doorstep.

As heroin addicts have very few scruples about where and how they get their money this is also a major problem.

DER TAGESSPIEGEL

Many women prefer a separation of property to make sure that they are not forced to assume responsibility for debts their partner may have incurred.

Others withdraw the authorisation to draw on their accounts.

Nevertheless, uncertainty remains. The men often sell furniture to get money without telling them.

"If he goes out you never know whether he'll be coming back," one of the women explained.

Why are there only women in the discussion group which has existed for one-and-a-half years?

As Claudia Affeldt explained, "we deliberately set up a women's group because we felt that there was no need for such a group for men."

Experience had shown her that there are hardly any relationships in which a man lives together with a woman who is addicted to drugs.

Why not? The women have plenty of explanations: "men cannot stand so much" or "women are brought up to keep the family together".

A report on the activities of the discussion group refers to the "ideals of marriage and family life" expressed by many of the women in the group. The women are generally extremely loyal to their partners and — even in the case of a longer separation, e.g. due to a prison sentence — they avoid starting up a relationship with other men.

The report continues: "A further interesting aspect is that a large number of the women have jobs in which they help others: nurses, psychologists, social workers or educators."

Whereas the female partners themselves adopt an absolutely "anti-drugs" stance — most of them don't even touch alcohol — the group supervisors have observed a different kind of dependency problem.

"Many women feel that they cannot live without their partners and that they would be unable to leave their partners even if they wanted to."

Many of the women in the group explain that they often feel unable to withstand the pressure of the situation.

Since the group was first set up the women have at least been able to take their own interests more seriously.

They are now able to talk about other things with their friends and acquaintances rather than just concentrate on the one problem.

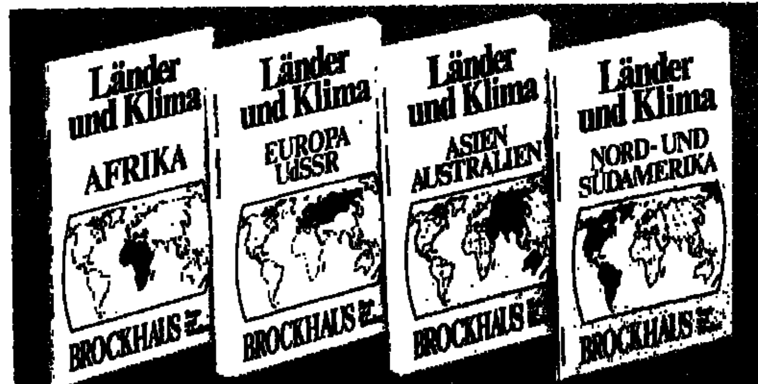
"Friends eventually get fed up with hearing the same old story," is a remark frequently heard in the group.

There are plans to set up a second group, which will focus on the current problems (including Aids) facing the group discussion participants.

The women regard the fact that they can exchange their experiences and are understood by someone as a particularly positive aspect. Another good thing is that no-one in the group asks silly questions such as "why does someone fall in love with a drug addict?".

(Der Tagesspiegel, Berlin, 15 March 1987)

Meteorological stations all over the world



supplied the data arranged in see-at-a-glance tables in these new reference works. They include details of air and water temperature, precipitation, humidity, sunshine, physical stress of climate, wind conditions and frequency of thunderstorms.

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Gorging-vomiting illness on the increase

Bulimia nervosa, a pathologically insatiable craving for food usually followed by vomiting, seems to be increasing.

Roughly 450,000 West German women aged between 15 and 35 have the illness. So do many men.

Thomas Paul, of the Nutritional Psychology Research Centre at the University of Göttingen, told an international congress in Göttingen that 80 per cent of all cases were triggered by a diet leading to a substantial loss of weight.

Paul discovered in a survey of 400 patients that strictly controlled eating behaviour with insuffcient food over a prolonged period results in waves of gluttony which can last up to four hours.

Within a short time, women gorge food with anything up to 10,000 calories. Terrified that they might put on weight, the next step is often vomiting.

According to Corinna Jacobi, who chaired the congress together with Paul, unrealistic slimming ideals are largely to blame for the increase in bulimia.

"Weight and a person's outward ap-

Continued on page 15

Varied results of troubled childhoods

Some children apparently come unscathed through disturbed childhoods. Others don't. Why?

Wolfgang Tress, of the Central Institute for Mental Health in Mannheim, questioned 40 adults to find out.

In detailed discussions, Tress heard about serious illnesses, the death of one of their parents, cruelty, their lives in a children's home or what it was like to be an unwanted child.

One year before the test half of the respondents suffered from considerable psychological — primarily neurotic or psychosomatic — problems. The remaining 20 had more or less no psychological problems.

Both risk groups were selected from a representative sample of 600 adult males.

Tress describes the empirical details of this test in his book *Das Rätsel der seelischen Gesundheit* (The Mystery of Mental Health).

His findings confirm what research into hospitalism since the 1940s has often pointed out: an intact relationship to a motherly person is decisive for a person's journey though life.

Those test persons who suffered a great deal during their early childhood were only then able to develop into psychologically healthy adults it they were supported in their early years by someone to whom they could closely relate.

It comes as a surprise, however, that the completeness of the family turned out to be the main risk factor for persons a difficult childhood.

If these test persons lived together with their father and mother during infancy there was a greater risk of psychological problems as grown-ups.

In some cases this family circumstances even destroyed the protective effect of a positive person of reference.

One explanation for the initially unusual finding is that the family was as a rule only superficially intact.

Under these circumstances the presence of a father who himself suffers substantial emotional strain frequently leads to additional emotional conflicts.This in turn might encourage a mother to abuse the child as a substitute partner.

The findings by no means infer that the father or the completeness of the family is irrelevant for the psychological development of a child.

However, a father can only play a beneficial role if he is able to establish a stable relationship with both the mother and the child.

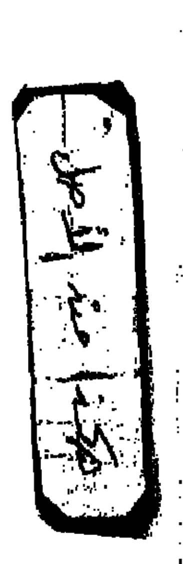
A mature father figure gives the child an opportunity to free himself from any exclusive motherly bond.

Yet even if the father is missing the child may still be able to take the decisive step towards the development of his personality, the emancipation from the close relationship with the mother towards emotional ties with several other persons.

A fatherless child, for example, may come into contact and familiarise himself with the "world of the fathers" together with relatives or in the families of his playmates.

This solution apparently seem to be more beneficial to the child than the negative "model" family, where a genuine father-child relationship is impossible.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 11 March 1987)



■ SOCIETY

Those long-gone days when families WERE families

The trend in West Germany is for families to be smaller. The national average is 1.9 children per family. Women are less keen to give up careers in the interests of having big families. Nor are people so prepared to make financial sacrifices. In this article for *General-Anzeiger Bonn*, Monica Weber-Nau looks at two families whose sheer dimensions (one with seven children, the other with 10) make them seem like a relic of the past. Indeed that might be true. The children of both families have now grown up.

Helga Bernsdorff, a secondary school teacher, lives with her university professor husband, Walter, in a simple house on the outskirts of the university city of Marburg.

Both the house and furnishings are modest, although the family's income is good. Frau Bernsdorff has brought up seven children. She says: "We've never managed to get ahead. We've never been able to buy things like my husband's colleagues."

Their first son was born in 1957. Twins were born in 1964. In between were three more sons and a daughter. Seven in seven years.

Were they all planned? Only the first, laughed Frau Bernsdorff. When they got married, they thought about having a large family, three or maybe four children. But theory was quickly overtaken by practice. In those days there was no Pill.

When I ask how they managed, Frau Bernsdorff describes the hotel-like dimensions of domestic tasks: mountains of washing, towering piles of dirty dishes, baskets full of torn trousers, jackets without buttons and socks full of holes. Then there was the huge amount of food that had to be bought and cooked.

She had neither a washing machine nor a dish-washer. They had no car. Her husband was able to help out only in the evenings and at weekends.

As soon as the youngest children had got past the worst, she returned to teaching.

Frau Bernsdorff is a discerning, cosmopolitan woman who understands why — even though she has never questioned it for herself — so many people today decide against having children. "I understand the attitude of people who feel themselves to be under pressure and want no children. I don't find that bad at all."

On whatever grounds it may be, stupidity or self-indulgence, or — as those who don't want to have children say — out of a sense of responsibility, the trend towards a childless society has been with us for some time. There are many reasons.Some women don't want to bring up a child on their own. There is also a wish for wealth and independence. There is fear of the future.

The Berndorffs lived with the constant worry that their children might one day be unemployed. It sounded like a sigh of relief when Frau Bernsdorff said that everything has so far worked out.

So how is the education of seven children financed? Frau Bernsdorff says: "It used to be easier. There used to be an allowance for pupils and university fees used to be better than they are now. So we were able to manage."

Now there have been cuts. She is critical that "a great deal is made about the desirability of people having families while, at the same time, family allowances are cut." The introduction of a "bringing-up allowance" she finds good, but says that it helps only a little.

In 1980, the Institut für Wirtschaftsforschung in Berlin compared the living standards of families with and without children. It found that families without children were clearly better off. The number of large families needing social welfare assistance was increasing.

The institute's report said that 22 per cent of families with three children had a nett income from the husband's work of less than 1,200 marks. Per head, this worked out at less than the level qualifying for social security payments. Only 20 per cent had a disposable income of more than 1,800 marks a month.

The report found that almost every second mother with children in a young family whose husband earned less than 1,200 marks a month had to work.

It also found that between 60 and 80 per cent of households with three or more children did not have enough living room. Only those with their own homes had enough space. That was why the proportion of home owners with children high at 63 per cent.

But having an own house meant two things. One was that the mother often had to work. The other was that the family had to go without holidays, many leisure activities and the children could not be kept and school and university.

Another Marburg family, the Fischers, wanted their own house, but have not been able to afford it. Margret Fischer would have liked to have moved with her 10 children into a house with a garden. But it didn't work out that way.

Their first son was born in 1952 and was followed by five others, then three daughters and finally the 10th, another son.

Frau Fischer brought her children up almost entirely alone. Her husband is a long-distance driver and was home only at weekends. They had none of the modern kitchen appliances which today are taken for granted. It was tough going. Like as forced march with a double pack.

But if you love your children, then it will be all right, she says. She got help from no one, not even the State — 25 marks a month per child was all the government handed out.

But she doesn't want money from the State. We have always managed alone, she says. And she is proud of it.

The family's first luxury came first at the beginning of the 1960s — a washing machine. In 35 years of marriage, the Fischers have twice had holidays. When they had seven children, Herr Fischer brought home just 90 marks a week. Later, the 12-person household had to make do with 1,500 marks a month. When the children went out to work, it became a little easier. They added a few marks to the household.

The average number of children in Germany per woman is 1.3, the lowest proportion in Europe. More and more women want careers at the expense of being a mother and housewife. It is considered today quite reasonable for a woman not to want to give up her work.

Women who do have children can expect another 30 years of life once their children are grown up. A hundred years ago, the expectation was only 10 years. And for a long time, because of the high rate of separation and divorce, marriage is no longer insurance for the woman.

Women have the joy of having a child but also the work that goes with it. Even the new generation of husbands who help more than their fathers did are usually little more than weekends fathers.

If the birth rate is to be increased, encouragement must be given to women to have children and enable them at the same time to work. This could be done through more flexible working hours, holidays to coincide with school holidays with job guarantees, plus a comprehensive social security provisions for children.

In 1965, Margret Fischer had a nervous breakdown. Recovery was slow and even now she sometimes finds it difficult to tolerate noise. At weekends when her children come home to visit their parents, she and her husband sometimes sneak out of the house to escape the noise.

She is disappointed that her daughters in law want only two children at the most. But she understands why. Tod[ay] she herself would not have 10 children.

"What's it like having many sisters and brothers," asked one of the grandchildren.

"It's nice always having someone to play with," answered one of the grown-up children. "But it's a nuisance never being able to be alone and always having to share everything."

Monica Weber-Nau

(General-Anzeiger, Bonn, 21 March 1987)

Continued from page 11

special Burda supplements and collections of recipes. In 1986 these activities, employing 520, had a turnover of DM180m.

But none of her publications are as dear to Frau Burda as *Burda-Moden*.

Made said: "She has three sons but *Burda-Moden* is her daughter." She launched the publication alone without any help from her husband Franz Burda, in competition with him to some extent.

The company is now divided equally between her and her three sons. Its independence is intact and will remain intact.

It would no longer be possible to merge the two Offenburg publishing houses, for a few months after their father's death the brothers divided up their inheritance.

The two elder brothers took over the printing operations and the holdings in other companies, including almost a quarter of the equity in Springer Vorlag, and Hubert Burda, for many years editor-in-chief of *Bunten*, followed in his father's foot-steps.

Gunhild Freese

(Die Zeit, Hamburg, 27 February 1987)

Continued from page 3

lications more-or-less in opposition [to] the party.

Brandt added that critics in his p[arty] who rejected his attempts at ren[ewal] looked upon his efforts as unnece[ssary] idiosyncracies. He was not available [for] talks with them.

I am certain, he added, "that the overwhelming majority of the party are ju[st] as sick of the way in which party confe[r]ence decisions are got around and th[e] laws of internal party democracy are be[]ing violated."

He had discovered that "some [who] consider themselves to be conservat[ive] and important, wanted to make poli[cy] changes, although they had no majority for that."

In those circles he added — even also by many who consider themselves to b[e] particularly left-wing — special intere[sts] are more highly rated than those of th[e] party as a whole.

He went on to criticise without actu[]ally mentioning his name, the forme[r] Chancellor Helmut Schmidt. Schmi[dt] who is one of the publishers of *Zeit*, a[c]cording to Brandt "had supported wi[th]drawing the political leadership fro[m] the party executive and to giving it ov[er] to the parliamentary party". "It amounted to nothing more than a ba[ck] door attempt to change course of th[e] party.

Brandt was emphatic in rejectin[g] claims of those who were trying to p[ut] the blame on him for the party's resu[lt] at the last general election in January. [A]s much as anyone he said, "certainl[y] carry responsibility for this or that inop[]portune statement"

However he added,"whoever thou[ght] he could force me into the role of sc[ape]goat has made a big mistake."

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 26 March 198[7])

Children allowed to stay in jail with mother-prisoners

Women prisoners in Lubeck are allowed to have their children up to three years of age with them in jail. The arrangement was introduced in May last year and the results so far are said to be good.

The Schleswig-Holstein Justice Minister, Heiko Hoffmann, said six mothers were being accommodated in a separate building.

Mothers and children occupy in each case a double room with kitchen and bath. They are allowed to go shopping and for walks in Lübeck itself.

Older children whose mothers are in jail generally live in homes and are collected by the fathers at weekends. One woman from Hamburg had sought parole and is allowed to go home each weekend.

Women in the prison must get up at 7 am and work four hours a day. The children are allowed to play in gardens and playground in the grounds. Doctors, psychologists, social workers and ministe[rs] of religion are available.

Most of the mothers have been se[n]tenced on theft charges. Minister Ho[ff]mann (CDU) says that the idea ha[s] proved itself and should be tried in othe[r] places. The three-year age limit for child[]ren was because older children were more aware of their surroundings and i[t] was considered that the negative factor[s] of being inside a prison outweighed the positive aspects. Incarceration could la[]ter on lead to a disturbed relationship be[]tween child and mother.

The cost of the scheme is three times as much as a normal prison — 240 marks a day instead of 80 marks.

Remission is made for good behaviour. A mother serving three years and six months could sometimes get off by serving just half, or 21 months.

G. Krumeller

(Die Welt, Bonn, 18 March 1987)

■ CRIME

Anti-violence campaign under attack

Women's groups are criticising a campaign in Hesse aimed at preventing violence against women.

Women need to learn to defend themselves, say the critics. Mental attitude was important. Women had to learn that men were not so physically dominant that women were too weak to resist.

They accuse the campaign of confirming entrenched ideas women have about themselves: full of fear and anxiety.

A poster in the campaign is in the firing line. It shows the photograph of a woman's face registering shock and a hand raised in protection.

Underneath in black letters there is the caption: "Violence is not a part of love." It is signed "Women."

The poster is on display in 43 towns and cities in Hesse. It shows women in an endangered situation and the typical male point of view: "If women say no, they really mean yes."

This is a phrase, say Frankfurt police, that comes up time and time again when men justify themselves.

Beneath the photo there is the answer from the representative in the Hesse state parliament responsible for women's affairs: "We take the view that when a woman says no she means no."

The campaign also indicates clearly that women are constantly under threat.

This was demonstrated by a pamphlet, made available in every police station in Hesse when the campaign was launched.

The pamphlet stated: "Violence against women is an everyday matter. Violence is part of a woman's experience of life, so much so that women are to some extent unaware of this fact. Rape is the extreme manifestation of male domination."

More than 10,000 cases of rape and coercion are reported to the police annually. Experts believe that the actual figure is 10 times this.

Seventy per cent of the cases of rape are by a member of the family circle, a friend or acquaintance, acccording to experts at a recent conference in Cologne.

The campaign mounted by the Hesse authorities responsible for women's affairs has taken on a problem usually only dealt with by social workers and the police. Until now only women's movements have emphasised its total social implications.

Every year there are "Walpurgis Night" demonstrations in Berlin, Frankfurt and other major West German cities. (Walpurgis Night is the eve of 1 May when witches, according to German popular superstition, rode on broomsticks and he-goats to hold revel with their master the devil.)

The slogan displayed at these demonstrations is "Women conquer the night," implying that women should be able to go out at night without fear and anxiety.

But women's groups asks why the campaign appeals to men. "Are potential offenders amenable to discussion? Why are women depicted yet again as defenceless victims? Why are men depicted as shadowy all-powerful figures on the poster? What does violence against women have to do with love, as is suggested on the poster?" the movement asks.

Pamphlets have been distributed calling for protests against the campaign.

The criticisms are justified to some extent. The campaign, mounted for the first time and with tax-payers' money, denounces male violence, and rape is not the only aspect.

But the overriding motive behind violent offenders is not "love" but a drive for power. Recent investigations in America confirm this.

The pleasure in violence against women is based in the woman's powerlessness. This poster design with the woman in terror and the shadow figure of the male is of doubtful effect because it confirms that a woman, fearful and anxious, can be subjected to violence, and the male is depicted with his physical superiority.

Women self-defence groups demand that women must learn to defend themselves. Men are not all that strong that women must be handed over to them. It is a question of inner attitudes, a preparedness to hit back.

The authorities responsible for women's affairs have taken notice of these points. They have organised a meeting under the slogan, "Male violence, female powerlessness? Self-defence classes, a strategy for women" in Frankfurt. There are also lectures and practical examples of what this kind of preparedness means.

The federal state campaign has led to women's self-defence groups demanding for financial support from the state and that young girls should be trained in this manner.

The women in these groups say that what is much more important is the question of women's self-confidence.

Elisabeth Kiderlen

(Deutsches Allgemeines Sonntagsblatt, Hamburg, 22 March 1987)

Sympathy for assaulted women is declining, meeting told

Frankfurter Rundschau

Society is tending to be less sympathetic towards women who are assaulted by men, a conference has been told.

Attacks are trivialised and the attitude often is that victims have only themselves to blame.

Fifteen women and girls are assaulted every hour, delegates heard. Every day there are between 150 and 600 sexual attacks on women, girls and infants. The known figure varies every year between 60,000 and 200,000.

The three-day conference in Cologne was attended by 800 delegates. It was organised by the committee for basic rights and democracy.

Michael Baurmann, a pschologist from the Federal Crime Office, reported that annually 20,000 cases of sexual attack were reported to the police and 19 per cent of these ended with a conviction against the attacker.

In between two and five per cent of cases, accusations were false. This was well below the figure for other offences.

The conference drew up a manifesto against sexual assault outlining demands for improving conditions for victims of such assaults and possible preventive measures.

Doris Janssen, of Berlin, a sociologist and one of the organisers of the conference, said that tricky matters would not be ignored in the effort to find possible solutions for the incidence of sexual assault.

She was here referring to the frequently heard question of a woman's complicity and "and whether we should deal with the culprits and whether, after the discovery of molestation within a family, the children should be separated from the family or take part in family therapy."

Forensic doctor Elisabeth Trube-Becker said 90 per cent of sexual offences within a family went undetected. A great many cases involved fathers and infants.

Both boys and girls up to the age of four were under threat from sexual attack, but girls were mainly at risk.

Offenders were usually outwardly "quite normal fathers of a families." Court evidence often showed them to be in all other ways devoted family men. They could come from any section of society.

The visible physical damage extended from bites over all parts of the body, bodily weals and injuries to the genitals. The psychological influences that have driven men to cause these injuries have not been properly classified by doctors and are often wrongly treated with psycho-pharmaceuticals alone.

When a child suddenly begins to wet the bed, cries out in the night, runs away from home, loses weight for no obvious reason, a doctor or therapeutist called in to threat the child must look into the possibilities of sexual molestation.

Dr Trube-Becker said angrily that children were often disbelieved when they reported to the police that they had been sexually assaulted or when assaults came to light in some other way.

Discreet

She said that a child in the pre-puberty stage could not possibly make up a story about sexual attack.

"Offenders are handled discreetly with kid gloves. The child has to be examined for credibility. This is not the procedure in other criminal offences," she said.

Women who are exposed to sexual assault within the intimate family circle turn more and more frequently to homes for battered women.

Women at a home for battered women in Mainz, set up nine years ago reported that they had had bones broken, were wounded by knives and had had both ears swell from beatings.

Men had wounded them with burning cigarettes, locked them away for weeks on end and threatened them with murder.

Doris Janssen said that it was difficult to believe that cruelty of this sort took place. She said: "It is hard for me to believe that we have a society where violence of this sort can take place."

Ingrid Müller-Münch

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 14 March 1987)

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pearance," she explained, "become more and more important for the ego."

A growing number of people are trying to squeeze their bodies into ridiculous "ideal" proportions.

According to Paul American scientists have proved that women's bodily proportions have changed over the past 20 years as a result of changed ideals of beauty.

The waist, breast and leg sizes have been reduced. The price to be paid for a dream figure, however, is often high.

Instead of feeling a lot better and self-confident bulimia patients find themselves faced by a variety of other problems: an upset vitamin balance, aches and pains, feelings of dizziness and depressions following their "gluttony attacks".

Apart from the physical and psychological problems bulimia is often associated with considerable financial problems.

Gluttony attacks cost a lot of money. In some cases crimes are committed to cover costs. Many patients particularly suffer from the isolation the illness brings.

They try to make sure that no-one finds out about their problem. The attacks do not come out of the blue, but are often planned in advance.

Many patients even start hoarding food to be ready. According to the researchers the disease can only be cured with the help of behaviour therapy.

The main objective is to help women learn how to develop self-control when eating.

More important still, says Paul, is that the women accept the fact that the size and weight of their bodies cannot be varied at will.

The human body soon refuses to go along with excessive downward or upward changes in weight and responds via a violent counterregulation.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 11 March 1987)